

FROM OXFORD TO THE CHANNEL <sup>005</sup> 1947

# COUNTRY LIFE

On Sale Friday

OCTOBER 17, 1947

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None of the vacancies in these columns relates to man between the ages of 18 and 50 incl., or a woman between the ages of 18 and 40 incl., unless he or she is excepted from the provisions of The Control of Engagement Order 1947, or the vacancy is for employment excepted from the provisions of that Order.

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"COUNTRY LIFE" copies wanted; 1 or more copies August 25, 1928.—MOGFORDS, Weston Manor, Bicester, Oxon.

OTHER PROPERTY AND AUCTIONS  
ADVERTISING PAGE 758



# COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CII No. 2648

OCTOBER 17, 1947

## KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

*By direction of the right Hon. Lord Rotherwick, D.L., J.P.*

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Lot 6. Moneys Farm (House and Modern Buildings)	... 78 "
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#### RESIDENCES

Lot 20. Hadley Dene,	... 4¾ acres
Lot 27. Runtens Farm House	... 2 "
Lot 34. The Old Rectory (Vacant Possession)	... 1¾ "

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Lot 4. Poplars Farm	... 208 acres
Lot 8. Sheldons and Klondyke Farm	... 141 "
Lot 10. Cowfold Farm	... 198 "
Lot 11. Bunkers Hill Farm	... 231 "
Lot 17. Whitehouse Farm	... 212 "
Lot 24. Rooks and Church Farm	... 233 "
Lot 29. Hartley Mill	... 159 "
Lot 30. Summerstead Farm	... 184 "
Lot 45. Owens Farm	... 101 "

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Overlooking the Mediterranean, with magnificent views



THE VILLA, RIGHT FOREGROUND THE COTTAGE, LEFT

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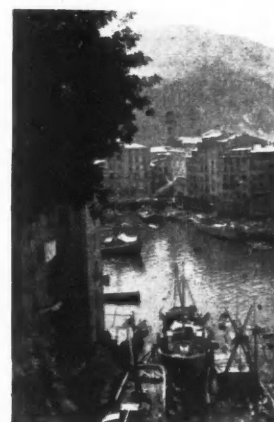
Also a gardener's cottage.

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## THE FREEHOLD GENUINE OLD COTSWOLD COTTAGE "RODWAYS," AVENING, GLOUCESTERSHIRE



Nailsworth 2½ miles (L.M.S. and G.W.R.). Stroud 6½ miles. Tetbury 3½ miles. Cirencester 10½ miles. Good bus service.

Comprising dining hall, lounge, modernised offices, 4 or 5 bedrooms, bathroom. Main electricity and power. Partial heating. Own water with electric pump. Septic tank drainage. Garage for large car. Well maintained and attractive hillside gardens and small paddock. In all about 1 ACRE (more or less).

For Sale by Auction (unless privately sold) on Wednesday, October 29, 1947, at 2.30 p.m. at the Church Institute, Stroud.

Illustrated particulars of the Auctioneers: Messrs. JACKSON-STOPS, Old Council Chambers, Cirencester (Tel. 334/5). Solicitors: Messrs. POTHECARY AND BARRATT, 73/76, King William Street, London, E.C.4.

By direction of the personal representatives of Mrs. Dyer-Edwards, deceased.  
WITH VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION.  
Stroud 3½ miles, Gloucester 6 miles, Cheltenham 10 miles. Good bus services available.

## "GREENACRES," Painswick, Glos.

### THE FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

Situate on the high ground just outside the lovely and favourite old-world town comprises: Good hall, 2 sitting rooms, 5 principal bed and dressing rooms, 2 well-fitted bathrooms, 4 secondary bedrooms (or nurseries, etc.). Compact easily worked offices with modern conveniences. Main electricity with ample power points throughout. Main water and gas connected. Main drainage. Independent hot-water supplies. Central heating. Telephone. Attractive, secluded and easily maintained grounds. IN ALL ABOUT 2½ OF AN ACRE (more or less). For Sale by Auction (unless privately sold) on Wednesday, October 29, 1947, at 2.30 p.m., at the Church Institute, Stroud. Illustrated particulars of the Auctioneers: Messrs. JACKSON-STOPS, Old Council Chambers, Cirencester (Tel. 334/5), or the Solicitors: Messrs. LEE & PEMBERTONS, 44, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.2.

By direction of H. G. Barlow, Esq.

IN THE GLORIOUS COTSWOLD COUNTRY, ABOUT 1 MILE FROM PAINSWICK, Stroud 4 miles (L.M.S. and G.W.R. main lines). Gloucester 6 miles. Cheltenham 6 miles. The delightfully situated, beautifully timbered, Freehold Residential Property. PARADISE HOUSE, near Painswick, Gloucestershire



Comprising the dignified Georgian Residence, modernised, containing fine paneled lounge hall, 3 rec. modernised easily worked offices (Aga), 5 principal bed and dressing rooms, 3 well-fitted bath, nursery suite of 4 rooms and fourth bath. Main electricity and power. First-class water supply. Septic tank drainage. Partial central heating. Telephone. Charming gardens, grounds. Garages for 2-3 cars, small farmery, cowstalls for 9-12. 3 good cottages. Park-like fields and orcharding.

In all about 23 ACRES. For Sale by Auction (unless privately sold) at the Church Institute, Stroud, on Wednesday, October 29, 1947, at 2.30 p.m. Illustrated particulars of the Auctioneers: Messrs. JACKSON-STOPS, Old Council Chambers, Cirencester (Tel. 334/5). Solicitors: Messrs. BENSON, CARPENTER, CROSS & WILLIAMS, 40, Corn Street, Bristol.

## AT A VERY LOW RESERVE ON THE COTSWOLDS, NEAR STROUD

700 ft. up, commanding magnificent views. Within 1½ miles of Stroud, and close to Lyptott.

The charming stone-built and stone-tiled castellated Freehold Residence

"HILL HOUSE" approached by drive, containing 3 reception, 4-6 bed, bathroom with modern fittings, 3 W.C.s, domestic offices, independent boiler, central heating boiler. Main electric light and power. Company's gas. Excellent water supply. Well-timbered grounds. Kitchen garden. Orchard. Lodge. Ample outbuildings, garages and stabling. In all 2½ ACRES

DAVIS, CHAMPION & PAYNE in conjunction with JACKSON-STOPS (Cirencester) are instructed by N. K. Paterson, Esq., O.B.E., to Sell by Auction (unless previously sold by private treaty), at the Church Institute, Stroud, on Friday, October 24, 1947, punctually at 3 o'clock. Particulars and orders to view from the Joint Auctioneers, 10 and 12, Kendrick Street, Stroud (Tel. 675/6), or Old Council Chambers, Castle Street, Cirencester (Tel. 334/5).



## Channel Isles—The Isle of Brecqhou

Covering some 160 Acres.

10 minutes (by boat) West of Sark.

### ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE

Hall, drawing and dining rooms, study, good domestic offices, 7 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms. Oak floors. Central heating; electricity.

### SMALL DOWER HOUSE

Separate annexe with 6 bedrooms, 2 cottages. Power house. Stabling and outbuildings.

### VACANT POSSESSION.

For sale with a Seat in Sark Parliament by consent of the Seigneur of Sark to whom is paid the Treizieme. £25,000 Freehold and free of Rentes.

The Island cannot be sold to a Company, but to one or two persons individually or jointly.

Joint Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, Yeovil, and LOVELL & CO., LTD., Guernsey, C.I.

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Newark-on-Trent 6 miles. Ollerton 7 miles. Nottingham 22 miles.

The valuable Agricultural and Residential Estate

### THE BEESTHORPE ESTATE, NEWARK-ON-TRENT

BEESTHORPE HALL, 39 ACRES

BEESTHORPE FARM, 123 ACRES

BEESTHORPE HALL FARM, 170 ACRES

CAUNTON COMMON FARM, 128 ACRES

MAPLEBECK FARM, 82 ACRES

Accommodation and woodlands, in all about 653 ACRES Producing £812 p.a.

Which will be offered for Sale by Auction (unless previously sold privately) at the Town Hall, Newark-on-Trent, on Wednesday, November 5, 1947, at 2.30 p.m. Solicitors: Messrs. CLIFFORD-TURNER & CO., 1, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4. Land Agents: Messrs. BEEVOR & WEETMAN, 43, Bridgegate, Retford, Nottingham. Particulars of the Auctioneers: Messrs. JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, Bridge Street, Northampton (Tel. 2615/6).

## A Stately Manor House 10 miles S.E. from Oxford

In a perfect setting near a lovely village.

Halls, 3 reception rooms, billiards room, 18 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bath-rooms.

Lovely gardens with a series of ponds. Cottage. Bothy, garage, stabling and usual outbuildings.



About 38 ACRES

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(3 lines)

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48, CURZON STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON, W.1

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40 minutes by express rail from London. Delightful south view. 450 ft. above sea.

### A BEAUTIFULLY FITTED MODERN REPRODUCTION OF AN EARLY ENGLISH MANOR HOUSE



1947 view

WITH ALL MAIN SERVICES INSTALLED.  
CENTRAL HEATING  
FITTED BASINS.

Eight best bedrooms (3 suites), 6 bathrooms, nursery wing, staff rooms, hall and 3 reception rooms. Garage and cottage. Squash and hard courts. Ample kitchen garden, farmland and woods; in all

37 ACRES. For sale privately now or by auction later.

Auctioneers: WINKWORTH & CO., 48, Curzon Street, London, W.1. (Gro. 3121.)

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About 35 miles from London, close to a village, and a mile from small town.

### A SMALL, WELL-TIMBERED RESIDENTIAL ESTATE, INCLUDING A GEORGIAN COUNTRY HOUSE

OF MODERATE SIZE.  
MAIN ELECTRICITY.  
PARTIAL CENTRAL HEATING.

Ten bedrooms, dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, hall, and 4 reception rooms. Stabling, garage and 2 cottages.

Partly walled kitchen garden, farmland and woods.



Pre-war photo

PRICE £25,000, WITH 275 ACRES

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# KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

## WALES

### CARMARTHEN AND CARDIGAN BORDERS

An attractive stone-built House in good order having beautiful views.



Hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bed and dressing rooms, 3 attic rooms, bathroom. Complete domestic offices. Central heating. Electric light. Good water supply. Telephone. Garages. Stabling.

Four-roomed cottage. Tennis court.

Good sporting facilities, including first-class salmon and sea-trout fishing in river.

ABOUT 4 ACRES  
FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Excellent Home Farm of 140 acres with farmhouse and cottage also available.

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## SOMERSET

5 miles from Wells, 18 miles from Bath and Bristol

### EDEN GROVE AND THE HOLLIES, SHEPTON MALLET

Two Georgian Residences overlooking the quiet 18th-century Leg Square.

**EDEN GROVE.** Contains hall, 3 reception rooms, 9 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, kitchens. Walled garden. About  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Freehold.

**THE HOLLIES.** Contains hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bed and dressing rooms (4 with basins), 2 bathrooms, modern domestic offices. Garages, outbuildings. Walled garden about  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Freehold.

Both residences with main services and total central heating.

### VACANT POSSESSION

For Sale by Auction in two Lots at Eden Grove on Friday, October 24, at 3 p.m. (unless previously sold privately).

Solicitors: Messrs. WOOLLEY, TYLER & BURY, 5-6, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.2. Auctioneers: Messrs. JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, Hendford, Yeovil, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

Mayfair 3771  
(10 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

By direction of John Moon, Esq.

## DEVONSHIRE

### "HIGHFIELD," NEAR TIVERTON

A medium-sized Country House facing south and approached by the South Molton Road.



Entrance hall and cloak-room, 3 reception rooms, 5 principal and 4 servants' bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, offices and gun room. Central heating. Main gas and electricity. Power-pumped water supply. (Gas cooker and immersion heater by valuation if required.) Garage for 4 cars. Stabling. Outbuildings and cottage. Gardens with conservatory. Orchard and paddock. Salmon and trout fishing near. Hunting and golf.

About 6 acres. Freehold.

For Sale by Auction with Vacant Possession at the Rougemont Hotel, Exeter, on Friday, October 31, at 3 p.m. (unless previously sold).

Solicitors: Messrs. HOLE & PUGSLEY, Tiverton. Auctioneers: Messrs. RICEARD, GREEN & MICHELMORE, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (Pars. 1/-).

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Between Aylesbury and Buckingham.

### WINSLOW HALL, WINSLOW

A FINE PERIOD HOUSE DESIGNED BY SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN

Halls, 3 reception rooms, study, billiards room, 17 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, 5 servants' bedrooms, complete offices with "Aga." All main services. Central heating and independent hot water supply.

Brick-built garages and stabling. Cottage.

Pleasure grounds with hard tennis court, summer house and walled garden. About  $6\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Freehold.

### VACANT POSSESSION of the whole.

For Sale by Auction at an early date (unless previously sold).

Solicitors: Messrs. VIZARD, OLDHAM, CROWDER & CASH, 51, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.2.

Auctioneers: Messrs. GEO. WIGLEY & SONS, Winslow, Bletchley, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (Particulars 1/-.)

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1, STATION ROAD, READING; 4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY, W.1

Quite Fresh in the Market.

## IN A FOLD OF THE WELL-WOODED CHILTERN

### BETWEEN HENLEY-ON-THAMES AND MARLOW

In a secluded position on the outskirts of a beautiful Buckinghamshire village and handy for church, Post Office, village shops and bus route. High Wycombe 9 miles. London 35 miles.

### A CHARMING REGENCY HOUSE known as The Cottage, Hambleden

with its characteristically well-proportioned and lofty rooms, modernised, and with later additions.



Four reception rooms, 6 principal bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 secondary bedrooms. Main electric light and power. Water pumped by electricity. Main water available. Garage for two cars, etc.

### EXCEPTIONALLY LOVELY OLD-WORLD GROUNDS OF THREE ACRES

richly timbered and intersected by a small stream.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD £7,500

Orders to View and Illustrated Particulars may be obtained from the Sole Agents: Messrs. NICHOLAS, Reading and London.

Telegrams:  
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Within 12 miles of the West End, overlooking a golf course.

### A MODERN GEORGIAN HOUSE

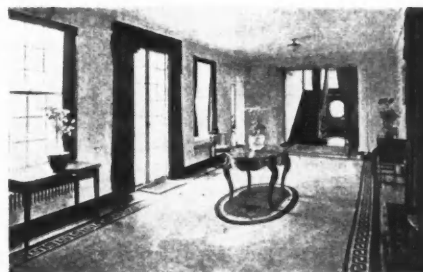
Situate in beautiful gardens and woodland extending to

NEARLY 6 ACRES.

Accommodation on two floors only includes: very fine lounge hall, drawing-room, dining-room, library, 9 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, etc.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. EFFICIENT CENTRAL HEATING.

Fine garage for 3 or 4 cars. Cottage with sitting-room, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchenette.



A CHOICE PROPERTY RECOMMENDED BY MAPLE & CO. FOR SALE AT MODERATE PRICE.



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To Institutions, Hoteliers and others

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Close to Berks, Middlesex and Surrey borders. Only 19 miles Hyde Park.

### "WRAYSBURY HOUSE," WRAYSBURY



A delightful old-world Residence, part pre-Tudor: Hall, 3 reception and a billiards room, 7-10 bed., dressing room, ironing and bathrooms and domestic offices, also a Tudor Lodge and modern detached Villa.

Gardens, grounds, kitchen gardens, orchard and meadowland of

**ABOUT 18½ ACRES**

Co.'s e.l. and water.

**VACANT POSSESSION** except modern building.

For Sale by Auction on October 22 next (unless sold privately).

Solicitors: Messrs. BLAKENEY & MARSDEN POPPLE, 28a, Grove Vale, East Dulwich, S.E.22. Particulars from the Auctioneers: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1.

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, STOKE POGES

Secluded position in lovely beech woodlands, 3 miles Gerrards Cross.

### "THE DUTCH HOUSE," STOKE WOOD



#### A LABOUR-SAVING COTTAGE-STYLE RESIDENCE

equipped central heating, basins in bedrooms, oak and pine flooring, South aspect. Three reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, modern offices. Co.'s services. Garage. Inexpensive garden, beech woods,

in all **ABOUT ½ ACRE**

**FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION.**

For Sale by Auction on October 23 next (unless sold privately).

Solicitors: Messrs. TEMPLETON, HOLLOWAY & KINGSTON, 43, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2. Joint Auctioneers: Messrs. A. C. FROST & CO., 21, Station Parade, Gerrards Cross, Bucks, and HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON, S.W.19 (Tel.: WIM. 0081) & BISHOP'S STORTFORD (Tel. 243)

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IDEAL YACHTING AND BOATING FACILITIES.

### "THE LAWN"

Freehold riverside property with late Georgian House in excellent condition.

Hall, 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and compact offices. Public services, main drainage, oil-fired central heating system. Garage, substantial and useful outbuildings.

Charming and secluded gardens and grounds encircled by a belt of trees, with terrace, wide-spreading lawns, kitchen gardens, etc.

in all **ABOUT 2 ACRES**

For Sale by Auction on October 23 next (unless sold privately).

Solicitors: Messrs. WINDYBANK, SAMUELL & LAWRENCE, 6-8, Clements Lane, Lombard Street, E.C.3. Joint Auctioneers: SPURGEON & SON, High Street, Maldon, Essex, and HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1.

By direction of Captain H. R. Graham, D.S.O., R.N.

In a Yachtsman's Paradise.

## WARSASH, HANTS

on the River Hamble.

### "BROOK HOUSE"

Comfortable and well-kept late Georgian Family Freehold Residence, containing hall, 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, night nursery, 2 baths and compact offices. Co.'s electric light and water. Constant hot water Central heating.

Garages and out-buildings. Pretty gardens, kitchen garden, orchard and paddock, in all over **2½ ACRES** with views over the Hamble and Southampton Water to New Forest.

For Sale by Auction on October 28, 1947 (unless sold privately)

Solicitors: Messrs. HUNTERS, 9, New Square, London, W.C.2. Particulars from the Land Agents: Messrs. STRUTT & PARKER, 49, Russell Square, London, W.C.1; and the Auctioneers: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1.

# CLASSIFIED PROPERTIES

2/- per line. (Min. 3 lines.) Box fee 1/6.

## AUCTIONS

With Vacant Possession. Rare Opportunity

### CHIDDINGFOLD

Surrey's prettiest unspoilt village. The delightful Modernised Detached Georgian Freehold Residence

### CRICKET GREEN COTTAGE

Two rec. rooms, 4 bedrooms (2 with basins), bathroom, 2 w.c.s, kitchen with electric cooker and domestic boiler. Co.'s water, electric light and power. Small but pretty garden. Witley Station 2½ miles. Buses also to Godalming and Guildford. For Sale by Auction, October 23, 1947. Apply Auctioneers:

### CUBITT & WEST

Haslemere (480) or Hindhead (63), also at Farnham, Egham and Dorking.

For Sale by Auction on October 22 (unless previously disposed of).

### DETACHED FREEHOLD RESIDENCE AT KESTON

comprising 3 rec., 5 bed., kitchen and bathroom, billiards room. Brick-built garage, garden workshop. Centrally situated. All main services. Possession on completion. For auction particulars apply:

### ERIC ROGERS

Farnborough Common, Kent (Farnborough 67)

### WIMBORNE HOUSE

22, Arlington Street, Piccadilly, London, S.W.1 adjoining Ritz Hotel and overlooking Green Park with frontages of about 77 feet to Arlington Street and 78 feet to Green Park, covering a Site Area of about 22,000 sq. ft. and having a net usable floor area of about 21,000 sq. ft. This FREEHOLD PROPERTY with Vacant Possession on completion will be offered for Sale by Auction at Winchester House, 100, Old Broad Street, E.C.2, on Wednesday, November 19, 1947, at 2.30 p.m., by the joint Sole Agents, Messrs.

### ALFRED SAVILL & SONS

of 51a, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.2 (Tel. Hol. 8741) and Messrs.

### COLLINS & COLLINS

50, Brook Street, W.1 (Tel. Mayfair 6248), from whom full particulars may be obtained. Solicitors: Messrs. MONIER-WILLIAMS AND MILROY, 38, King William Street, E.C.4 (Tel.: Mansion House 3868).

## WANTED

**AMERSHAM**, near or within 50 miles of London, convenient for main line station. Wanted to buy, isolated Country Property, 4-6 bed and 3-10 acres. Main electricity.—"Mrs. F.", TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Adulph Street, W.1.

**SOUTHERN ENGLAND**. Modern or modernised House, 5-6 bedrooms, electricity. Garage, stable, paddock. Possession summer, 1948. Maximum £5,000.—Box 23.

**BOURNEMOUTH**. House to rent or buy at moderate price; easy reach Hurn Airport.—BARRY, 29, Osborne Road, Romford.

**HERTFORDSHIRE OR ESSEX**. An old House, preferably Georgian, with modern conveniences: 7-10 bedrooms, 2 or more bathrooms, and from 5 acres up to 20 acres or more. Price up to £15,000.—Details to "Stortford," c/o F. L. MERCER AND CO., 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Tel.: Regent 2481.

**STANMORE AREA, IN OR AROUND**. A 6-bedroom House or a little larger required.—Write full details re price, etc., to Box 24.

**TAVISTOCK AREA**. Buy old House or Farm, preferably Georgian, minimum 5 bedrooms, some land. Reasonable price.—LIEUT.-COL. TOD, Aberporth, Cards.

## FOR SALE

**ARGYLLSHIRE**. Isle of Mull. Estate of Benbulbin. Attractive Sporting Estate, part of the well-known Lochbuie Estate, in the south of Mull. Good Lodge, deer stalking (10 stags), salmon and sea trout fishing, shooting. Area 11,000 acres.—Further particulars from Messrs. LINDSAY HOWE & CO., W.8, 32, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, who will arrange for inspection.

**BAHAMAS**. Building Site of 7 acres with additional land available for farming within easy distance if required. 300 ft. of own beach. Food in plenty. No income tax. Sterling area. Owner having purchased larger estate nearby. Price £2,500.—Details from WILLIAM WILLETT, LTD., Sloane Square, S.W.1. Sloane 8141.

**CENTRAL IRELAND**. Sporting Estate of about 1,000 acres for Sale. Beautifully situated stone-built Residence has hall, 4 reception rooms, 15 bed and dressing rooms, Bathroom and usual offices. Excellent stabling and outbuildings. Lovely grounds including a walled garden. Good farm buildings. Valuable timber. All the land is in hand and vacant possession will be given.—Apply: LOFTS & WARNER, 41, Berkeley Square, W.1.

**HANTS**. (1) New Forest Borders. Country House of character, 5 rec., 12-14 beds, 3 baths. Three cottages. Main services. Garages. Farmery. 27 acres. Residential or for School. Institutional purposes. Price £12,000. (2) Lynton 4 miles. Country property, 24 acres. Beautifully constructed House (large rooms), 2-3 rec., domestic offices, 6 beds., 2 baths. Two cottages. Modern cowpens. Garage. £15,000 or offer. (3) Charming House, Solent shores, 5 beds., etc., 24 acres. Cottage. £9,500. Lynton outskirts. Three rec., 4 beds. 2 acres. £7,800.—Full details, LEWIS & BADCOCK, 40, High Street, Lynton.

## FOR SALE

**CHIPSTEAD, SURREY**. Very attractive detached Residence of substantial modern architectural design, most delightfully situated in undulating country, yet only 5 minutes from the station. The property has been carefully maintained, and is in fine decorative condition. The splendid accommodation comprises: Imposing entrance hall with tiled cloakroom, w.c., most pleasant lounge 20 ft. by 12 ft., windows at either end, spacious dining room of tasteful decoration, well-equipped tiled kitchen, Ideal boiler, fitted cupboards, etc. On the first floor 3 excellent bedrooms, all of good size, modern appointed tiled bathroom, with all latest fittings, sep. w.c., large well-planned and nicely tended garden. Brick-built garage. Opportunity to acquire a most desirable residence. £4,975 freehold.—Write: LINCOLN & CO., F.V.I., Survivors, 6, Station Approach, Wallington, Surrey. Wallington 5491 (3 lines). (1256)

**EAST SUSSEX**. Home Farm of just over 55 acres, 12 miles from coast. Situated in delightful locality surrounded by natural countryside with beautiful views. Well-appointed house, modernised and easy to run, comprising 2 reception, 4 bedrooms, dressing room and writing bureau adjoining balcony, etc., with small staff flat separate from house. Delightful garden, good farm buildings and lodge at entrance of drive. All in perfect repair and condition. Man and his son run farm and will remain. Price £14,000.—Box 918.

**KINGSWOOD, SURREY**. A thoroughly modern and labour-saving Residence of quiet mellowed character in pretty woodland setting. High ground and easy reach Walton Heath Golf Course. Five bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 large reception, including beautiful lounge 35 ft. x 16 ft. with brick fireplaces. Tiled kitchen. Two garages. Charming garden with heated greenhouse, etc., well over 1 acre. Freehold £8,000.—MOORE & CO., Survivors, Carshalton. Tel.: Wallington 2606. (Folio 4492)

**TAUNTON** (10 miles east of). Truly picturesque, thatched, Tudor Country Residence with spacious rooms, stone mullions, oak beams and stone fireplaces. Hall, cloaks (h. and c.), 3 rec., 6 bed., 2 bathrooms. Garage. Stabling. Orchard and paddock 3½ acres. Main water and electricity. £5,950 Freehold. Also, 500 feet up, 5 mins. walk from market town, Devon-Somerset border, exceptionally well-appointed detached Residence in parklike grounds of 6½ acres with 2 paddocks. Hall, cloaks (h. and c.), 3 rec., 6 bed., 2 bathrooms. Main services. Modernised 5-roomed cottage. Garage and stable. £8,000 Freehold.—GRIBBLE, BOOTH AND SHEPHERD, Bate's Arcade, 9, Hendford, Yeovil (Tel. 434), and at Basingstoke.

## FOR SALE

**NEW FOREST**. Country Residence, 7 bedrooms, 4 reception; 15 acres and 6-roomed gardener's cottage. £5,500.—Write, Box 852, HARRODS ADVTG. AGENCY, S.W.1.

**NORTHANTS-LEICESTER BORDERS**. Delightful Country Residence, 3 reception, 10 bed and dressing rooms (fitted basins), 4 bath., well-arranged kitchen quarters; charming woodland gardens, splendid hunter stabling, cottage, paddock of 5 acres. Central heating. Co.'s electricity. Freehold for sale at a reasonable price.—Details from HOLLOWAY, PRICE & CO., Estate Agents, Market Harborough.

## TO LET

**CHURCH STRETTON, SALOP**. To be Let Furnished for one year or longer, charming well-furnished House with south aspect, 800 feet above sea level, with magnificent views of Long Mynd and surrounding country. Lounge hall, 2 recep., cloak, 5 bed., usual offices, main water, electricity, telephone, garage. Spacious gardens and paddock. Banker's ref. Rent 10 gns. p.w.—Box 22.

**HANTS-WILTS BORDERS**. Salisbury 8 miles, 3 miles from small town, on fringe of unspoilt village. To Let, charmingly furnished delightful old Country Residence. Shady and productive garden. Four reception, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, complete offices, e.l., garage. £10 10s. weekly from end of September for six months, including full-time gardener.—Agents: MYDDLETON AND MAJOR, Salisbury.

**HORSHAM AND GUILDFORD (BETWEEN)**. Beautiful old Tudor House with lovely old furniture and every modern convenience. Available October to March. Five bed., 3 recep., main electricity and water. 8 gns. per week, or less to first-class tenant.—Apply, RACKHAM & SMITH, 31, Carfax, Horsham. Phone: 311.

**SUFFOLK COAST**, between Lowestoft and Southwold. Country House to Let within half a mile of the sea. Dining and drawing rooms, study, 7 bedrooms, 2 baths., w.c., kitchen, scullery, etc. Good water supply from well. Main electricity. Garden, tennis court.—Further particulars from THE AGENT, Benacre Estate Office, Wrentham, Beccles.

**WOODBRIIDGE (NEAR), SUFFOLK**. Elizabethan Manor House, 14 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, modern domestic offices with Aga cooker, etc. Central heating. Main electric light and power. Lovely secluded gardens. Garage and stabling (flat over) and 7½ acres. To Let Unfurnished on Lease.—Details from GARROD, TURNER & SON, 1, Old Butter Market, Ipswich. Tel.: Ipswich 3127/8.



Regent  
4304

## OSBORN &amp; MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

28b, ALBEMARLE ST.,  
PICCADILLY, W.1

## KENT COAST

In a delightful position surrounded by woodland and open country, commanding lovely sea views.

## A WELL-BUILT MODERN HOUSE

with 2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen with Aga cooker.

Modern Conveniences. Brick garage.

The garden extends to about  $\frac{3}{4}$  ACRE but has not been maintained during the war years and is at present in very overgrown condition.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD ONLY £3,500

Vacant Possession.

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (M.2476)

## ON A RIDGE OF THE SURREY DOWNS

Standing on high ground, facing south and west, enjoying wonderful views, and near to the station whence London is reached in about 35 minutes.

## A WELL-EQUIPPED MODERN CHARACTER HOUSE

Containing 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, bathroom.

Company's Electricity, Gas and Water

Double garage with room over.

Beautiful pleasure gardens arranged in a sequence of terraces and including lawns, orchards, etc., in all

ABOUT  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH EARLY POSSESSION

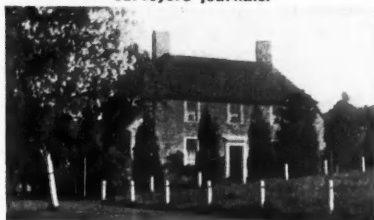
Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17.938)

## 12 MILES SOUTH OF TOWN

Occupying a picked position on high ground, within convenient reach of station and a first-class shopping centre.

## AN OUTSTANDING MODERN HOUSE OF CHARACTER

the subject of illustrated articles in architects' and surveyors' journals.



Designed for complete comfort and labour saving, and to obtain the full benefit of the sun.

Fully panelled dining and drawing rooms, 4 bedrooms, splendidly fitted bathroom.

All main services. Large Garage.

The pleasure gardens have been the hobby of the present owner and have great charm. There are lawns, hard tennis court, brick terrace, rockery, flower borders, and a number of young fruit trees.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Most of the furniture including some genuine antiques would be sold if required.

Inspected and strongly recommended by the Sole Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17.942)

## ON THE LOVELY SURREY HILLS

Delightfully situated, high up, commanding magnificent views and within easy daily reach of London.

AN ATTRACTIVE WELL-BUILT MODERN HOUSE in first-class decorative condition, well planned and quite up to date.

Hall, 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 2 baths.

All main services. Central heating.

## TWO BRICK-BUILT GARAGES WITH SPLENDID FLAT OVER

Extensive grounds with orchard, kitchen garden, 2 grass tennis courts, hard court (needs resurfacing), the whole extending to

ABOUT 5 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD ONLY £6,950

Quick sale desired as owner going abroad.

Inspected and highly recommended by the Owner's Agents: Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17.929)

## NORTHANTS

Delightfully situated in the centre of the Pytchley country.

AN ATTRACTIVE OLD HOUSE DATED 1739

## ADJOINING AN OLD-WORLD VILLAGE

Three reception rooms, 11-12 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Main Electricity and Drainage. Stabling.

Five cottages (two with possession).

## CHARMING LAKE OF ABOUT 2 ACRES

Well timbered matured gardens, kitchen garden, grassland, etc., in all

ABOUT 36 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17.937)

44 ST., JAMES'S  
PLACE, S.W.1

## JAMES STYLES &amp; WHITLOCK

Regent 0911 (2 lines)  
Regent 2858

## SUSSEX

## AN IDEAL SMALL COUNTRY HOME FOR A CITY GENTLEMAN

The residence dates from the 17th century. It was added to in 1903 and subsequently all modern conveniences were installed. The whole property is in first-class order and the gardens are exceedingly beautiful. Away from all main roads.



Accommodation: 3 sitting rooms, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, splendid offices with maid's sitting room, kitchen with "Aga" cooker. Main water. Main electricity and power. Telephone. Septic tank drainage. Fine old oak barn (40 ft. x 15 ft.), part used as garage. Stabling of 3 stalls. Total area about 7 ACRES including a 5-acre meadow. Hard tennis court, kitchen garden, lawns. The grounds are magnificently timbered and full of interest. Many thousands of spring bulbs.

Vacant Possession March, 1948.

Inspected and thoroughly recommended by the Sole Agents: JAMES STYLES AND WHITLOCK, as above. (L.R.22,048)

HERTFORDSHIRE  
ONLY £5,500 OR OFFER

Five minutes' walk from Brookman's Park Station, with through trains to City; close to Hatfield.

## MODERN (TUDOR-STYLE) RESIDENCE

well fitted and first-class order; very easy to manage. Lounge (15 ft. 6 in. x 12 ft.) and dining-room (15 ft. 6 in. x 11 ft.), gentlemen's lavatory, splendid offices, 4 best bedrooms, 2 other bedrooms, bathroom, modern conveniences, garage, garden in good order, about 1 ACRE. FREEHOLD. EARLY POSSESSION.

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. Regent 0911. (L.R.21,931)

## LONDON 44 MILES

Suitable alike as a private house, hotel, country club or school. A lovely and faithful reproduction of a

## 17th-CENTURY HOUSE

created of old materials, including fine beams and panelling. Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, 16 bedrooms, 9 bathrooms. Central heating, electric light. Garages, stabling. Two flats, lodge. Squash court, barn theatre, indoor swimming pool. 20 ACRES. Lake.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD or might be Let unfurnished.

Sole Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R.21,271)

£30,000 AVAILABLE

For the Purchase of a good House with 8 bedrooms, together with a Home Farm of 100-150 ACRES, with VACANT POSSESSION, in the Southern Counties.

Please send full details to: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1.

## WEST SUSSEX

## OUTSTANDINGLY BEAUTIFUL OLD TIMBER-FRAMED HOUSE

with high ceilings. Large lounge, music room, 2 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, dressing room, 3 bathrooms. Central heating. Electric light. Main water.

Gardens of great charm, in all 3 ACRES. PRICE £15,000 FREEHOLD

Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R.21,771)

## CHILTERN HILLS

Reading 6 miles.

## A MOST ATTRACTIVE BLACK AND WHITE TUDOR HOUSE

In a lovely position. Hall, 3 reception rooms, 9 bedrooms, dressing room, 3 bathrooms. Electric light. Central heating. Garage for 3 cars. Fine gardens and paddock.

IN ALL 4 ACRES. PRICE £9,500 FREEHOLD

Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R.21,873)

## PRIVATE BEACH ON HANTS COAST

Magnificent marine views. Admirably suited for a school, hotel or nursing home.

## EXCELLENT HOUSE IN FIRST-CLASS ORDER

Four-five reception rooms, 13 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms. Central heating, main services. Garages, 3 cottages, hard tennis court, squash court, 20 ACRES with cricket field.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE.

Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1. (L.R.21,969)

## HANTS AND SUSSEX BORDERS

Petersfield 6 miles. Vacant possession.

## ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE

with 3 reception rooms, 11 bedrooms, bathroom, "Aga" cooker, servants' hall. Main electricity and water, central heating. Garage, stabling (2 rooms over), cottage.

Paddock, orchard, etc., in all 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  ACRES. PRICE FREEHOLD £9,000.

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. Regent 0911. (L.R.22,064)

## NORTHERN NORFOLK

## RED BRICK AND TILED HISTORICAL COUNTRY RESIDENCE (1647)

in a favourite part of the country, within 16 miles of coast. The residence possesses great character. Hall and 3 sitting rooms, 8 bedrooms, bathroom. Main electricity and power, central heating. Two fine modern cottages. Old gardens, paddocks, etc., 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  ACRES. Stabling, garage, and other buildings. FREEHOLD £10,000.

Sole Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1, and Mr. A. R. HUNT, Market Square, North Walsham, Norfolk. (L.R.21,960)

## SOMERSET £7,500

## WITH VALUABLE MARKET GARDEN

Lovely position with panoramic southerly views. EXCELLENT RESIDENCE in fine order, with panelled lounge hall (original Queen Anne staircase), 3 reception rooms, 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Main services. Attractive walled gardens and orchards.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD. PRICE ONLY £7,500, open to offer.

Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R. 14,309)

HARROW, PINNER  
and BEACONSFIELD

## CORY &amp; CORY

20, LOWNDSE STREET, S.W.1 SLOane 0436 (3 lines)

CHALFONT ST. PETER  
and RICKMANSWORTH

## WEST SUSSEX

In unique position on South Downs



## FASCINATING COTTAGE RESIDENCE

Part 300 years old.

Excellent condition, wealth old oak, etc.; 3 rec.; usual offices; 4 beds., bath; central heating; main el. and water; garage; small stable.

Approximately  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres lovely gardens and  $22\frac{1}{2}$  acres in occupation of tenant farmer

IN ALL ABOUT 25 ACRES

Low Rateable Value. FREEHOLD £10,500

V.225

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

SUPERB RESIDENCE  
in Old English Style.

Erected 35 years ago and now in excellent state of repair throughout.

6 beds., 3 rec., bathroom.

ALL MAIN SERVICES.



$1\frac{1}{2}$  acres screened by woodland and parkland.

FREEHOLD £12,000 (OR NEAR OFFER)

C.1111

Grosvenor 1553  
(4 lines)

# GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)

25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1

Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,  
West Maitin St.,  
Belgrave Sq.,  
and 68, Victoria St.,  
Westminster, S.W.1

## FAVOURITE PART OF SURREY

Bounded by National Trust and other large landed Estates.

"REEVES REST," CHIPSTEAD. IMPORTANT SMALL AGRICULTURAL AND RESIDENTIAL ESTATE

### GEORGIAN STYLE RESIDENCE

Completely renovated and modernised. Hall, 3 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms. Modernised offices. Bailiff's self-contained flat. New electric central heating plant. Main electricity and water. Septic tank drainage.

LODGE and THREE COTTAGES (two rebuilt).

"PARK FARM" with farmhouse, bungalow and numerous buildings, including cowstalls suitable for an attested and T.T. dairy herd



IN ALL ABOUT 117 ACRES FREEHOLD  
WITH VACANT POSSESSION

For Sale by Auction as a whole or in two Lots,  
unless sold privately, at The London Auction  
Mart, on November 26, 1947

Solicitors: Messrs. NYE & DONNE, 58, Ship Street,  
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Auctioneers: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount  
Street, W.1.

Managing Agents: Messrs. HARRIE STACEY & SON,  
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### BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED MODERN COUNTRY HOUSE

Very convenient for City or West End, 23 miles south. Rural position 400 ft. up with magnificent views.



THE WHOLE PROPERTY  
IS IN EXCELLENT  
ORDER.

Panelled lounge hall, 3  
reception rooms, 9-11 bed-  
rooms, 3 bathrooms. Central  
heating. Main services.

Garages. Workshop.

Cottage.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 10 ACRES  
REASONABLE PRICE. VACANT POSSESSION. URGENT SALE DESIRED.  
Photographs, etc., from the Owner's Agents, as above. (A.2707)

### BETWEEN COLCHESTER AND IPSWICH CHARMING PERIOD VILLAGE HOUSE

Recently redecorated and  
modernised throughout.  
Lounge 25 ft. x 19 ft. with  
beautiful moulded beams,  
panelled dining room, 4-5  
bedrooms, bathroom, kit-  
chen with Esse cooker, etc.  
Telephone. Main electri-  
city. Rebuilt gardener's  
cottage. Stabling for 6.  
Excellent garden with some  
fine old trees, tennis court,  
and kitchen garden, in all  
about 2 ACRES



Inspected and recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, as above. (5791)

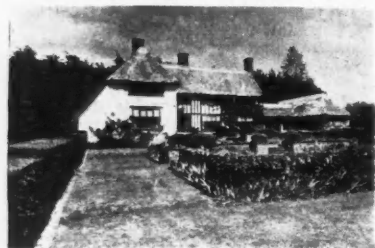
## F. L. MERCER & CO.

SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1

Regent 2481

### PERFECT SMALL LUXURY HOUSE OF CHARACTER IN A BEAUTIFUL PART OF KENT

In a magnificent setting. On high ground with panoramic views.



#### FASCINATING TUDOR REPLICA

With every conceivable  
modern comfort.

Lounge hall, cloakroom (h.  
and c.), 3 reception rooms,  
5 bedrooms, dressing room,  
2 luxurious modern bath-  
rooms. Main services.

Garage.

Beautifully laid out gar-  
dens with tennis lawn, fruit  
trees, lily pond and paddock

### FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Tel.: Regent 2481.

### ESSEX. BETWEEN DUNMOW AND THAXTED

ONLY £5,950 is asked for this fascinating copy of XVIIth CENTURY FARM-  
HOUSE built of old materials with fine oak timbers. Two reception, 5 bedrooms,  
bathroom. Central heating. Aga cooker. Electric light. Main water. Garage. Gar-  
dens and paddock. 1½ ACRES. A home of unique old-world charm with extensive  
views over unspoilt country; 5 minutes' walk bus service.—Sole Agents: F. L. MERCER  
AND CO., as above.

### FAVOURITE WENTWORTH DISTRICT

EASY REACH VIRGINIA WATER, Sunningdale and Windsor Great Park.  
A MODERN HOUSE OF DELIGHTFUL CHARACTER, LUXURIOUSLY  
FITTED. Three reception rooms, maid's sitting room, 7 bedrooms, dressing room,  
4 bathrooms. Mains. Central heating. Large heated garage. Well-timbered grounds,  
3 ACRES. FREEHOLD.—F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

### BETWEEN AYLESBURY AND OXFORD

IN A DELIGHTFUL VILLAGE overlooking Vale of Aylesbury. Charming 14th  
century COTTAGE-RESIDENCE, fully modernised. All mains. Lounge,  
2 reception, 5 bed, bath. Cottage (let). Pretty garden ½ ACRE. £7,000 OR OFFER.  
—F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

### KENT. 3 MILES SOUTH-EAST OF MAIDSTONE

A most picturesque and interesting XVth century Farmhouse with a  
modernised interior. For sale with about 2½ ACRES

Brick, tile hung and timber  
framed, with tiled roof and  
leaded light windows. Rich  
in original features. Lounge  
hall, 2 reception rooms,  
4 bedrooms, dressing room  
and bathroom. Telephone.  
Baths in bedrooms. Main  
electricity and water.

Three garages. Swimming  
pool. Tennis court. Nice  
old gardens and small  
orchard.



£6,500 WITH EARLY POSSESSION

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Tel.: Regent 2481.

### NEAR ST. ALBANS, HERTS. 20 MILES LONDON

A BEAUTIFUL SMALL ESTATE, equipped regardless of expense, well protected  
by farmlands. MODERN RESIDENCE of outstanding type with polished oak  
floors, central heating throughout, luxurious bathrooms, 3 reception, billiards room,  
7 principal bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 4 staff bedrooms. Main electricity. Two cottages,  
garage. Lovely gardens, prolific orchard, hard tennis court. 6 ACRES. REDUCED  
PRICE FOR QUICK SALE.—F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

### WEST SURREY BEAUTY SPOT

SOUTH OF THE HOG'S BACK. Triangle of Farnham, Seale and Tilford. Views  
to Hindhead. PERFECT MODERN HOUSE in Georgian style of architecture;  
oak strip floors; flush doors; central heating; basins in bedrooms. Three reception,  
5 bed, dressing room, 2 luxury bathrooms. Mains. Double garage. Naturally beautiful  
grounds. 7 ACRES. £8,950.—F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

### PRETTY REACH OF THE THAMES

BETWEEN CHERTSEY AND SHEPPERTON. 100-YEARS-OLD HOUSE  
OF PLEASING CHARACTER. MODERNISED. Compactly planned. Three  
rec., sun lounge, 6 bed, 2 bath. Part central heating. Garage, stabling, cottage (let).  
Well-timbered grounds, paddock. 2½ ACRES. £7,250.—F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

Tels. SEVENOAKS 2247-8  
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## IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO.

SEVENOAKS, KENT  
TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT  
OXFORD, SURREY  
REIGATE, SURREY

### SEVENOAKS



In a rural position yet only  
1 mile from town and station,  
12 bed and dressing rooms,  
2 bathrooms, lounge hall,  
3 reception. Main services.  
Garages, stabling and other  
outbuildings. Good cottage,  
garden and grounds.

6½ ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD

£10,000

Sole Agents: IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO., 125, High St., Sevenoaks (Tel.: 2247 48)

### SURREY AND KENT BORDERS. Replica of a Tudor Manor House

In a picked position on Crock-  
ham Hill, 500 feet up, with  
beautiful panoramic views,  
12 bedrooms, 2 dressing  
rooms, 4 bathrooms, 4 re-  
ception rooms, lounge hall,  
squash court. Garage and  
stabling. Two cottages,  
Co.'s electricity, etc. Char-  
ming gardens, paddock and  
woodland.

15 or 80 ACRES  
FREEHOLD FOR SALE

IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO., Station Road East, Oxted, Surrey (Tel. 240).





5, MOUNT ST.  
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## CURTIS & HENSON

Grosvenor 3131 (3 lines)  
Established 1875

### SURREY. UNIQUE POSITION ON HIGH GROUND

Easy reach of London. Entirely protected by woodlands and open spaces. Ideal home for busy City man. Adjoining well-known golf course.



Perfectly equipped. In first-class order.

#### CHARMING SMALL TUDOR REPLICA

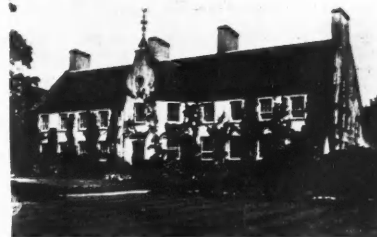
Six bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, large lounge, hall, dining-room, Labour-saving domestic offices. All main services. Central heating. Garage. Attractive gardens and woodland.

**FREEHOLD FOR SALE WITH SIX ACRES.  
VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION.**

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### OVERLOOKING THE FIRTH OF CLYDE

Magnificent Highland scenery. Sea coast frontage.  
**A DELIGHTFUL HOME**



**ABOUT 2,400 ACRES**

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Grosvenor 2861

## TRESIDDER & CO.

77, SOUTH AUDLEY ST., W.1

Telegrams:

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**NEWBURY 4 MILES.** In a delightful rural position. **A PICTURESQUE OLD THATCHED COTTAGE** with up-to-date conveniences. 2 sittingrooms, bathroom and W.C., 2 bedrooms (h. & c.). Main electric light, telephone, independent hot water. Large barn, 2 garages. Charming garden with lawns, fruit, etc. **£5,500 FREEHOLD** including pelmets, electric fittings, refrigerator, electric cooker, auxiliary water heaters, fitted carpets bedrooms and stairs. Furniture and fuel stocks may be taken over. Strongly recommended.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1.

**HERTS.** 12 minutes walk station (daily access London). **EXCELLENT MODERN RESIDENCE** with "Adam" features. 3 reception, 3 bathrooms, 6/8 bedrooms. Main electric light, gas and water. Central heating. Large garage. Grounds of **3 ACRES.** Hard tennis court, lawns, orchard and paddock. **£8,000.**—TRESIDDER AND Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (23,354)

**KENT.** Westerham-Oxted, 450 feet up, near station. **PICTURESQUE MODERN RESIDENCE**, in excellent order. Hall, 3 reception, 3 bathrooms, 9 bedrooms, dressingroom. Main water and electricity. Central heating. Telephone. Double garage. Cottage. Stabling. Nicely disposed gardens, kitchen garden, orchard and paddock. **9½ ACRES. FREEHOLD.**—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (17601).

**WILLIAM AND MARY RESIDENCE 35 TO 100 ACRES**  
**BKES.** 7 miles Reading, 1½ miles station. Charming old Country House. Lounge hall, billiards and 4 reception rooms, 4 bathrooms, 11 bed and dressing rooms, attics. Central heating, main electricity, Aga. Garages, stabling, cow house, 2 lodges, flat and men's rooms. Grounds with lake. Hard tennis court, orchard, pasture and woodland **35 ACRES**; or with **100 ACRES** including FARMHOUSE, 2 MORE COTTAGES and FARM BUILDINGS. For sale Freehold, or residence would be let unfurnished, with gardens, at £300 p.a.—TRESIDDER & Co., as above. (23,194)

**BIRMINGHAM AND LONDON** (between). 2½ miles main line junction (hour London). **CHARMING HOUSE, BUILT 1903.** Lounge hall, 3 reception, bath, 5 bedrooms. All main services. Central heating. Telephone. Stabling. Garage. Well-stocked gardens, paddocks, etc. **6 ACRES. FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION.**—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (22,928)

**BUCKS.** 5 miles Aylesbury. In charming village. **PICTURESQUE RESIDENCE DATED FROM 18th CENTURY.** Lounge hall, 2 reception, bathroom, 6-9 bedrooms (5 h. and c.). Main electric light, water and drains. Telephone. Two garages. Stabling. Delightful secluded and well-stocked gardens, kitchen garden, etc. **£8,750 FREEHOLD.**—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, London, W.1. (17,855)

**3½ ACRES £5,500**  
**SURREY,** 2½ miles station (40 minutes London electric trains). Picturesque Tudor style residence. 3 reception, bath, 4 bed. Main water and electricity. Telephone. Garage. Gardens and paddocks with fruit trees.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (18,144)

**CITY MAN'S RESIDENCE IN EXCELLENT ORDER. 6 ACRES**  
**40 MINUTES LONDON.** Mile station. Particularly attractive and well-built **MODERN RESIDENCE.** Oak panelled lounge hall, billiards room, 3 reception, 4 bathrooms, 9 bed and dressing rooms. Oak floors. Main services. Central heating. ESSE COOKER. Telephone. Garages, workshop, man's room. **EXCELLENT COTTAGE.** Delightful grounds, hard court, walled kitchen garden, glasshouses, orchard and pretty woodland. **FREEHOLD.** Strongly recommended.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (9,281)

**CORNWALL,** 1 mile station, few minutes walk town. **ATTRACTIVE STONE-BUILT HOUSE.** Hall, 4 reception, 2 bath, 8 bed, (4 h. and c.). Cottage annex of 6 rooms and bathroom. Central heating. Main electric light and water. Telephone. Garage. Grounds of **3 ACRES. £6,500 FREEHOLD.** TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (21,353A)

## FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO.

Established 1799

AUCTIONEERS. CHARTERED SURVEYORS. LAND AGENTS.

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### HERTFORDSHIRE

Within ½ mile Knebworth Station

#### FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

4 BEDROOMS, 2 RECEPTION ROOMS.

BATH ROOM, LOUNGE HALL.

DOMESTIC OFFICES.

COMPANIES' ELECTRIC LIGHT and WATER. MODERN DRAINAGE.

GARAGE.



#### ATTRACTIVE GARDENS

with HARD TENNIS COURT and

KITCHEN GARDEN,

in all about

**3 ACRES.**

**VACANT POSSESSION.**

**PRICE £7,000**

(Subject to contract).

For further particulars apply: FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO., 29, Fleet Street, London, E.C.4.

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LONDON, S.W.3

## BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY

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#### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT. JUST IN OUR HANDS.

**ONE OF THE FINEST FULLY ATTESTED DAIRY FARMS, 200 ACRES TOGETHER WITH RETAIL MILK BUSINESS OF OVER 300 GALLS. DAILY** 60 per cent. of which is sold at T.T. at 11d. per quart, remainder at full price with no discount whatsoever. A sound and absolutely genuine concern increasing and with great possibilities. One of the best in the country and equipped with all machinery.

#### CHARMING PERIOD RESIDENCE

with every modern convenience. Fully Attested and exceptionally fine farm buildings. T.T. milk has been produced for nearly 20 years. Four modern cottages. Situate in the near West Central Midlands.

#### FOR SALE FREEHOLD AS GOING CONCERN

Full details will be supplied to principals only, and appointments to view by application to Owner's Sole Agents: BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, as above.

#### VERY FINE ESTATE NEAR NORWICH

GENTLEMAN'S FIRST-CLASS RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE  
**710 ACRES**

#### CHARMING RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER

Most attractively situated. Four rec., 8 bed., 2 baths. Well-equipped domestic offices.

Triplex grate. Ideal boiler, etc. Main electricity throughout.

Lovely gardens. Tennis court. Sunken Dutch garden, etc.

Secondary residence. Two sets of excellent modern farm buildings. Garage 4 cars. Nine cottages. Very good shooting.

#### VACANT POSSESSION FREEHOLD

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3. (Ken. 0152/3).

23, MOUNT ST.,  
GROSVENOR SQ., LONDON, W.1

## WILSON & CO.

Grosvenor  
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### UNSPOILED ESSEX

*Between Bishop's Stortford and Dunmow. 300 ft. up, lovely views*



Delightful 17th-century house with old-world features, yet completely modernised. 5 beds, bath, 2 reception, electric light, central heating, etc. Garage. Gardens of about an acre.

**FREEHOLD £5,950**

Agents: WILSON & CO., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

### BETWEEN GUILDFORD AND HORSHAM

*Magnificent position, 600 feet up, with glorious views.*



Charming modern house in finely timbered grounds of 4 Acres. 8 beds, 3 baths, 3 reception, main services, central heating. Garage and flat. Cottage.

**ASKING £8,000**

and no reasonable offer refused

Agents: WILSON & CO., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

### DELIGHTFUL 17th-CENTURY HOUSE

*Lovely part of Surrey. One hour London.*



Completely modernised with every up-to-date convenience yet retaining all its period features. 5-6 beds (basins), 2 baths, hall, 2 reception. Main services. Central heating. Charming old-world gardens, paddock, etc.

**FOR SALE WITH 4½ ACRES**

Agents: WILSON & CO., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

3, MOUNT ST.,  
LONDON, W.1

## RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Grosvenor  
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### LITTLE-KNOWN HERTFORDSHIRE

*Roydon 4 miles, Bishop's Stortford 12 miles.*



#### FASCINATING 16th-CENTURY COTTAGE

Snug and homely 'neath its thatch. 500 ft. up. Panoramic views. Authentic period interior. Lounge (a feature), 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Main electricity and water. Garage. Old barn. Gardens. Large pond (would make swimming pool), etc., in all

About 1½ ACRES. **FREEHOLD (with possession) £6,600, to include all the contents (valuable antiques).**

Sole Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

### HANTS—BERKS BORDERS

*High position in most attractive setting. Close to village. One hour from Town.*



#### ARCHITECT-DESIGNED HOUSE OF CHARACTER

in excellent repair. Ready to step into. Six bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge hall and 2 reception. Main electricity and water. Large garage. Inexpensive gardens and land, in all about 7 ACRES

**FREEHOLD £10,000 or near offer.**

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

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*Overlooking golf course. 1½ miles Sunningdale Station. Close to bus route.*



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on two floors. Beautiful position. Lovely view. Eight bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, hall and 3 reception. Oak beams, strip oak flooring, open fireplaces, etc. Main electricity and water. Central heating. Garage. Matured gardens, sloping and levelled lawns, shady trees, in all about

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(Tel. 2491)

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Hall, 4 reception, 10 bedrooms 4 bathrooms. Stabling for 5 horses. Garage.

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2 miles Devizes. 10 miles Troubridge. 20 miles Swindon. 21 miles Salisbury.

#### FINE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

on a picked site with magnificent views.

4 reception, 6 principal and 5 secondary beds., 4 baths., servants' quarters and domestic offices. Aga cooker.

2 cottages, farmery and 2-acre lake, about

**40 ACRES**  
in all.

Possession of all but 7 acres.

Grid electricity. Main water. Modern drainage.



**PRICE (Subject to formal contract) £12,000**

Further particulars of the above properties from WOOLLEY & WALLIS, The Castle Auction Mart, Salisbury (Tel. 2491—3 lines) and at Romsey (Tel. 129) and Ringwood (Tel. 191)

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20 miles London. 600 feet up. Lovely views.



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#### WELL-EQUIPPED CHARACTERISTIC HOUSE

in park-like setting; 3 rec. (parquet floors); 8 to 9 bed and dressing (basins, h. and c.); 3 bath.; main services; central heating; garages; good cottage; farmery.

**ABOUT 11 ACRES**  
**FREEHOLD £12,000.**

**NEAR BEACONSFIELD. WELL FITTED HOUSE** in woodland setting: 3 sitting, cloak, 6 bed., 3 bath.; main services; central heating; garage; excellent cottage; nearly 4 ACRES. **FREEHOLD, £9,750, OR WITHOUT COTTAGE, £7,500.**

**ON THE HILLS ABOVE HENLEY. VERY FINE EARLY GEORGIAN HOUSE** in faultless order and commanding beautiful views; 3 sitting (all over 20 ft. long); 5 bed., maid's room, 2 bath.; main services; garage and stable. **ABOUT AN ACRE, £8,500 FREEHOLD.**

Established  
1850

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*Bovey Tracey 2½ miles, Lustleigh 1 mile, Newton Abbot 6 miles.*

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Granite principal residence, re-decorated and modernised, comprises 2 reception, 3 bed, kitchen (with Aga cooker), 2 bath, etc.

Secondary residence containing 1 reception, 2 bed, usual offices.

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Well stocked wall gardens, woodland and pasture.

**In all about 11 ACRES**



**FOR SALE BY AUCTION on November 26, 1947**  
(unless previously sold by private treaty).

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26 miles south-west of London. 50 minutes from Waterloo by electric train. 300 ft. above sea level.

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Fully modernised and in exceptional order.

Four reception, 26 bed and dressing, 13 bath.  
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Two modernised cottages. Bungalow. Bothy.  
Garages for 4. Two flats.

Kitchen gardens and pleasure grounds of 25 acres.

VACANT POSSESSION EXCEPT ONE FLAT  
ON COMPLETION.



Also

The White House, Red House, Studio Flat, modernised Lodge and large Bungalow, all with Vacant Possession.

Fully equipped indoor Riding School.

Pair of Cottages. Modern Bungalow.

Altogether about 27½ ACRES

For Sale privately as a whole or by Auction in November

Full particulars from the Joint Auctioneers: BARTON, WYATT & BOWEN, London Road, Sunningdale, and JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.

## FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION TWYFORD HOUSE

Valley of the Itchen near Winchester.



### LOVELY RED BRICK QUEEN ANNE HOUSE

With about 200 yards of fishing in the Itchen. Lounge hall, 4 reception, 10 bed and 2 dressing, 5 bath, suite of 5 rooms and bathroom.

Central heating. Main services. Two cottages. Chauffeur's flat.

Walled gardens and kitchen garden. Pasture land.

About 18 ACRES

For Sale by Auction (unless sold privately) at Winchester on Nov. 11, 1947. Auctioneers: HARDING & HARDING, Midland Bank Chambers, Winchester; JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, W.1.

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Leicester 9 miles, Loughborough 8 miles.

### THE ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY RESIDENCE, BARDON HALL



Six reception (some panelled), 11 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, usual offices. Central heating. Main electric light. Own water supply. Well-timbered grounds, etc. Four cottages. Kitchen garden.

In all 108 ACRES

Also suitable for a School, Training Centre, Offices, etc.

VACANT POSSESSION OF THE RESIDENCE AND 3 COTTAGES  
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Andoversford 2½ miles. Cheltenham 7 miles.

IDEAL FOR SCHOOL, INSTITUTION OR CONVALESCENT HOME.



Attractive stone-built Cotswold Mansion  
part Jacobean, in excellent order.

Two halls, 13 principal and 18 secondary bedrooms, 5 reception, 7 bath, tiled offices. Central heating. Main electricity.

Garages. Stables. Two flats. Two lodges. Walled garden.

Price £15,000 (open to offer) with 45 ACRES

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Completely secluded yet only 17 miles from London.  
COMPACT MODERN HOUSE



Two reception, 9 bed and dressing rooms (most with basins), 2 bathrooms. Aga cooker. Central heating. Chauffeur's cottage with garages. Hard tennis court. Main electricity and water. Large ornamental lake and timbered grounds of 37 ACRES

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In the fertile valley of the River Cairn, close to Moniaive, 15 miles from Dumfries.

### RESIDENTIAL, AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING PROPERTY

13 CAPITAL DAIRY, ARABLE AND GRAZING FARMS

25 TO 1,200 ACRES

Mansion House with beautiful parklands of 63 acres (let to Preparatory School). Four smaller residences. A number of cottages. Market garden. Feu duties in Moniaive.

Valuable lots of standing timber, hard and soft wood.

ALTOGETHER ABOUT 6,771 ACRES

Grouse and low ground shooting. River and loch fishing.

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By direction of Major Egbert Cadbury.

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A miniature Estate with sea frontage and direct sea views.

Of particular interest to yachtsmen or those requiring a private residence exclusive hotel or school.

Beautifully appointed and luxuriously fitted Georgian House

4-5 reception rooms, 13 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, sun room. All main services. Central heating.

Squash and hard courts. Lodge and 2 flats.

Gardens and lovely grounds of about 20 ACRES

For Sale Freehold with Vacant Possession.



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## NETHWAY HOUSE, KINGSWEAR, SOUTH DEVON

1½ miles from the sea, near two good harbours. Kingswear 1½ miles. Brixham 3 miles. Torquay 8 miles.

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An original unspoilt William and Mary House

Five period panelled rooms, 3 reception rooms, 6 principal and 4 staff bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fine staircase. Small well-timbered park, farmery, 40 acres woodland, 4 cottages.

Farm of 32½ acres with 3 cottages let at £380 per annum.

Accommodation land. Low outgoings.

The house would be sold with a smaller area.

Further particulars: JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, W.1. (70,127)

Unique opportunity.

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Overlooking the Menai Straits, in glorious position.

Imposing Stone-built Period Mansion

Suitable also for School, Hotel, Training College, etc. Five-six reception, 18 bedrooms, 6-9 other rooms, 3 bath, compact offices. Own electric light and water. Central heating. Garage and stable block. Kitchen gardens. Five cottages, 2 lodges. Pastures, woodlands.

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Re the Hon. Peter Aitken, deceased.

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Adjoining National Trust Property. Epsom 4 miles, Dorking 6



A COMPACT SMALL COUNTRY PROPERTY  
CHARMING MODERN RESIDENCE

7 bed, 2 reception, 2 bath, servant's hall, modern kitchen with Esse; central heating; all main services. Garage. Gardens and grounds; hard tennis court.

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Situated about 3½ miles from Ryde with excellent boat service to Portsmouth, whence London is easily reached by express trains



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Comprising a section of the picturesque seaside resort of Seaview including the moderate sized Mansion known as "Seagrove" possessing remarkably fine views over Spithead and standing in a miniature park of about 17 ACRES. Home farm of about 53 acres. The fully licensed Pier Hotel of 56 bedrooms with vacant possession.

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## THE UNIQUE CHAIN PIER

Total actual income £978 per annum.

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Solicitors: Messrs. FARDELLS, Market Street, Ryde. Auctioneers: Messrs. Fox & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

## WIMBORNE, DORSET

Seven miles from Sandbanks and Poole Harbour, 9 miles from Bournemouth.

## THE DELIGHTFUL FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY "MOORINGS"

having full south aspect and commanding extensive views across the Valley of the River Stour.



Eight bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 2 fitted bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, excellent up-to-date offices. Main water and electricity.

Garage for 2 cars. Gardener's cottage.

Beautiful matured grounds including well-kept tennis and croquet lawns, productive kitchen garden with full bearing fruit trees, rose garden, shrubs and trees, and 2-acre paddock. The whole extending to an area of about 4 ACRES

VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION OF PURCHASE.

To be Sold by Auction at St. Peter's Hall, Hinton Road, Bournemouth, on Thursday, October 23, 1947, at 3 p.m. (unless previously sold privately).

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Suitable as a Private Residence, Roadhouse, or for Business Purposes

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On the main London-Brighton Road. Crawley 1½ miles, Redhill 8 miles, Horley and Three Bridges Stations each about 3½ miles.

## EXCEPTIONALLY PICTURESQUE MODERN COTTAGE-STYLE RESIDENCE



Two bedrooms, bathroom, lounge hall, 3 reception rooms (2 with brick inglenook fireplaces), and well-fitted kitchen, separate w.c. Garage. Detached out-building with washing-up room and 2 w.c.s. Ample car parking space.

Main electricity, gas and water. Modern drainage. The pleasure grounds are in course of reconstruction and comprise lawns, flower beds, rockery and kitchen garden.

PRICE £5,500 FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION

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Occupying a splendid secluded position in unspoilt country.

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Five principal bedrooms, 3 secondary bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, maid's sitting room, panelled entrance hall, cloakroom, kitchen and complete domestic offices. Four-roomed cottage and garage. Greenhouse and other useful outbuildings. Delightful well-wooded grounds, including lawns, rose garden, herbaceous borders, small wood, also orchard, well-in kitchen garden and paddock, in all about 13 ACRES



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in perfect order throughout and ready for immediate occupation.

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## THIS SOUNDLY CONSTRUCTED STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE

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## MODERN HOUSE, HALF TIMBERED

In first-class order and condition throughout. Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, 12 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, maid's sitting room. Main water and electricity. Partial central heating. Fitted basins in bedrooms. Garage (4), 8 loose boxes, 9 kennels, 2 cottages.

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Only 45 mins. from Town, with hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, complete offices. Electric light and power. Co.'s water. Aga cooker. Double garage, and useful outbuildings. Cottage.

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with hall, 3 large reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, boxrooms, complete offices. Aga cooker. Electric light. Co.'s water. Modern drainage, etc. Garage for 4. Stabling. Small farmery. Cottage and bungalow.

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IN ALL ABOUT 15 ACRES

FOR SALE ON REASONABLE TERMS  
WITH EARLY POSSESSION

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17th-CENTURY FARMHOUSE WITH  
LATER ADDITION

Hall, lounge, dining room, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, garage, matured garden. Lawns, flower beds, kitchen garden, paddock.

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FASCINATING 18th-CENTURY  
FARMHOUSE

with a stone roof, 3 reception, 5-8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, complete offices. Excellent water. Electric light. Garage for 2 cars. Stabling for 4. Greenhouse and cottage. Old-world garden partly walled, herbaceous borders, well-stocked kitchen garden, fruit trees, paddock, etc.

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## SMALL HOUSE OF CHARACTER

with fine oak timbering and other characteristic features. Two reception rooms, 4 bedrooms and 1 dressing room, bathroom. Main water and electricity. Central heating. Garage. Matured gardens and orchard about **2 ACRES**

ALSO 22 ACRES OF LAND

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BEAUTIFULLY BUILT WELL-PLACED  
RESIDENCE

Containing 3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, Heated garage. Lovely garden.

ABOUT HALF AN ACRE

THE PROPERTY WAS BUILT FOR OWNER'S OCCUPATION.

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**6/3**  
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Why? Because those same countries are also selling us bacon and eggs and they must keep back some of their wheat-feed for their stock.

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### 150 Flowering Bulbs 20/-

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Write for Coloured List.

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**ELSOMS' BULBS**  
Quality  
—the pick  
of Spalding's best

The proof of the bulb is in the flower. A customer writes: "From 50 tulip bulbs I have had 50 perfect blooms, and from the daffodils the results were equally good."  
**ELIZABETH** Collection of special Darwin Tulips—100 in ten varieties, 35/- or half the collection, 18/6—Carriage Paid.  
All super top-sized bulbs.

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Since 1858

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Keep it Handy

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### AN EZEE KITCHEN FOR OLD OR NEW HOUSES

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THE 'ANY-HEAT' HOTPLATE CONTROL



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*Attractive  
Protection*



THE walls of this  
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house illustrate how beauty and protection can be simply applied in one operation by the use of Snowcem Waterproof Cement Paint. The result is an enhanced appearance coupled with resistance to damp and weather. Made with a base of Snowcrete White Portland Cement, Snowcem can be easily washed and does not peel or flake. It is obtainable, without permit, in white, cream, pink and silver-grey. Full details may be had from The Cement Marketing Co. Ltd., 192 Ashley Gardens, London, S.W.1; from G. & T. Earle Ltd., Cement Manufacturers, Hull, or The South Wales Portland Cement & Lime Co. Ltd., Penarth.

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## Mare and Corporation



Tom Pearce, Tom Pearce, will you tell us what course  
 (All along, out along, down along lea)  
 You took to develop the thews of a horse,  
 Like Carnera, Goliath, Eugene Sandow, Gog and Magog,  
 Paul Bunyan, Asar Thor,  
 And Popeye the Sailor and all, and Popeye the Sailor and all.

My mare, you remember, so lately deceased,  
 (By the terms of her will I'm the sole legatee)  
 Was in several respects a remarkable beast,  
 Like Bucephalus, Prince Regent, Hrimfaxi, Copenhagen,  
 Black Beauty, Brown Bess,  
 (Eohippus was rather too small, Eohippus was rather too small.)

Although, being horse, she could not herself sing,  
 A prop of the opera nightly was she,  
 For she carried the diva through most of The Ring,  
 And Tannhäuser, Don Juan, Leonora, Traviata, Trovatore, Pagliacci,  
 And old Uncle Siegfried and all, and old Uncle Siegfried and all.

She died ; and to carry the vast prima-donna  
 (Seventeen stone) now devolved upon me.  
 "Bring Guinness !" I cried, "or Tom Pearce is a gonner !  
 Not zibbib, nor arrak, nor toddy, nor metheglin, nor date-beer, nor tedj,  
 Bring Guinness or nothing at all ! Bring Guinness or nothing at all."

The dame was amazed by her spirited mount,  
 And ever since then I'm a strong devotee  
 Of Guinness, whose virtues are quite without count,  
 And for goodness, and richness, body-building,  
 Frame-filling, muscle-making, good health,  
 A Guinness is good for us all, a Guinness is good for us all.



# COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CII No. 2648

OCTOBER 17, 1947



*Fayer*

## THE DUCHESS OF RUTLAND

The Duchess of Rutland, whose marriage to the Duke of Rutland took place last year, is the eldest daughter of Major Cumming Bell and Mrs. Cumming Bell, of Binham Lodge, Edgerton, Huddersfield

# COUNTRY LIFE

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## HEALTHY LIVESTOCK

AT first sight it may appear overbold, at a time like this, for the veterinary profession, which has always been regarded as the poor relation of the medical family, to be putting before the public an educational programme which will involve a yearly expenditure of the order of £200,000. Consider the facts, however. The starving of veterinary education in the past has kept, for many years, the average of professional knowledge and technical skill among veterinary practitioners well below that of the corresponding branches of human surgery and medicine. Lack of facilities for advanced education with a university and hospital background has severely limited the number of men of first-class ability who might otherwise have exercised their talents to the full in animal therapy and surgery. At the same time the somewhat tardy organisation of practitioners on professional lines has exposed them to the full blast of unqualified competition. It is only recently that the public—including even the agricultural public—has come to see that, apart from its toll in sickness, pain and misery among animals which lack of scientifically qualified practitioners and of facilities for diagnosis and treatment tolerates and prolongs, it also inflicts immense financial damage on the human community to whom the animals belong.

The facts speak for themselves. The present incidence of animal diseases, at our 1947 scale of livestock farming, costs the nation and the producers not less than £50 million annually. This is in a strict sense capital depreciation—sheer waste—and almost all of it is preventable. Apart from direct losses caused by sickness and slaughter designed to check epidemic disease, sterility and impotence also are caused by avoidable infections which can be successfully treated if they are properly diagnosed. The healthier the livestock, the better the human food they produce. Apart from any question of nutrition, it is now the policy of this country for financial reasons to produce here all possible meat, bacon, eggs and dairy products, which otherwise must be brought from abroad and paid for in dollars. This country possesses very great financial resources, as the stud farm of the world, in its unrivalled herds and flocks of pedigree livestock and of equine bloodstock. Skilled breeding, under veterinary control, can greatly increase this capital value, and can also "grade upward" the less specialised animal populations, so that they produce more and better meat and milk. Thanks to artificial insemination this is now much more practicable than ever before, and is also part of our agricultural programme. For these productive projects we need many research stations at present non-existent. We also need stations at which to study causes of disease and ways of their prevention, and we must realise

that these will be comparatively useless without a country-wide hospital and diagnosis service.

Here we come back to the fundamental need for able and well-educated veterinarians to staff all these services, whether as general practitioners, specialist diagnosticians, or research workers. The Veterinary Educational Trust is therefore putting first things first in going all out for providing more and better facilities for training at veterinary colleges. If only the training were there, there would be no lack of ability and talent to take advantage of it—as much correspondence with would-be entrants during the war years has very clearly proved to COUNTRY LIFE. But at present there are only five training centres in the country, and all places in them are booked up for years to come. The V.E.T.'s programme includes the provision of scholarships and maintenance grants for students, and the awarding of research fellowships. Anything that could be done at the same time to increase the number of

## PITY

*PITY'S a liar sometimes. If a man live—  
If a bird live in a cage, the song will arrive.  
Grief, dim barrier, even grief, or pain,  
Shuts not all of the stars' light out of the brain.  
For a million years, against unsoftening odds,  
In his nature's need has man made names for gods.  
We lack the word—not Beauty, Majesty, Fear—  
In a heaven-sent peak, in a countenance, every-  
where,  
In self's hiatus, the voyage out and returning,  
Is a flower in hand, strange, and our lamp still  
burning.*

FRANK KENDON.

places in the colleges would be just as valuable, though there is at present, no doubt, a limit imposed here by scarcity of instructors. To make the work thoroughly effective there must be, in addition, the comprehensive hospital and diagnostic services into which research work, teaching, and clinical practice would fit as they do in the modern system of human medicine. Such a system is the aim of the V.E.T., and it cannot be said that £200,000 a year is too much to pay for an effective organisation which will save us £50,000,000.

## MIND VERSUS MATTER AT LYME

WHILE any decision on mining in Lyme Park is postponed pending a conference of interested parties on October 20, an illuminating contrast in values affecting this particular issue is presented by Lord Newton's letter in the *Times*, and one from Mr. J. Hammond, President of the Lancashire Area, National Union of Mineworkers, in the *Manchester Guardian*. Lord Newton asked whether a temporary economic need was sufficient ground for sacrificing the beauty of a unique national amenity, preserved by his ancestors and enjoyed by the public for generations. Mr. Hammond urged that coal measures underlie so relatively small an area of Britain, and the need is so desperate that "the few beautiful square miles of Lyme Park should be mined all over and so play a part in rehabilitating England as a whole." Where, he asked, "is the concern about the blighted warren of South Lancashire, mined since the Middle Ages? Let Lyme's coal be used to beautify the lives of the ordinary people of Wigan, St. Helens and the rest, most of whom have only read of the wonderful beauty of this hitherto one-man's preserve for the first time, and so enable Lancashire mine and textile workers to take week-end holidays among the beauties of North Wales, the Lakes and Pennines." If the small shallow deposit at Lyme would really have this prodigious result, and if the public had in fact been excluded from the park hitherto—instead of enjoying it freely for centuries besides actually owning it now—there might be a case for letting the bulldozers loose; but the "blighted warren" will not be transformed by being extended, or the millenium be achieved by mining 300 acres. But a great work of art that has taken six centuries to make can be ruined in a few months by getting coal that will be exhausted in a few weeks.

## FARM LABOUR AND THE CRISIS

IN spite of rumours to the contrary Mr. Tom Williams remains at the Ministry of Agriculture, and his old job as Parliamentary Secretary goes to Mr. George Brown, who, until he entered the Government, was an organiser of the Transport and General Workers' Union and did good work during the war as a member of the Hertfordshire Agricultural Executive Committee. Mr. Brown's Union does not always see eye to eye with the National Union of Agricultural Workers, though the two Unions share the country's agricultural labour between them. The Agricultural Workers' Union does not seem to have been very greatly impressed by the Minister's exposition of his programme for expansion, and his plans for providing the necessary farm labour. Little was said about the promised improvement of accommodation and living conditions, and a great deal about the money which was "being ladled out to the other section of the industry." While, however, delegates protested that the Government were offering all the incentives to farmers and none to the workers, they did not endorse the idea that the Union should give a lead to the whole trade union movement in reversing Sir Stafford Cripps's policy for the export drive. It is much to be hoped that Mr. Williams will be able to reach his target of 100,000 workers to replace those being lost this year, but in view of "the large and pressing needs of other industries" his task will not be lightened by further demands that agricultural conditions should be "comparable with those of the highest paid industries."

## THE QUEST OF THE RYDER CUP

TOMORROW our team of professional golfers will set off to America for their crusade in quest of the Ryder Cup. Everyone will wish them well, for they are good golfers in the best sense of the words. Their captain, Henry Cotton—and they could not have a better one—has said that he hopes they may give their hosts a surprise. That is probably as far as any save the most optimistic prophets will go. In this country our players have been successful except in the last match before the war at Southport, but in the United States they have never won nor indeed come near to victory, and the American team on their own ground are likely to be as formidable as their predecessors. One thing ought to help our men, namely the climate, since the match is not to be played at Portland, Oregon, until November 1. Unquestionably the standard of British professional golf has now recovered from its natural decline during the war years. We have a good side, which, win or lose, will do itself credit.

## SEAWEED

WHEN the Secretary for Scotland recently opened the Government-sponsored Institute of Seaweed Research at Musselburgh he said that seaweed might provide a feeding-stuff for sheep, pigs and poultry. In the North both cattle and sheep, as well as deer, Shetland ponies and poultry, have long been known to eat seaweed; soup made from seaweed has been fed to dogs; Man himself consumes laver and dulse, and carrageen "moss" is used to make pastilles and blancmanges. At various times it has been asserted that both turtles and herrings derive their specially nutritive qualities from the seaweed in their diet. Some of these statements the cautious layman may have received in the past with a sceptically raised eyebrow. But nobody, having read so much, will in this year of 1947 find the suggestion that farm feeding-stuffs might be obtained from seaweed incredible. Other reported utilisations of seaweed, in addition to fertiliser and the much-publicised substitute for agar agar, include roof and floor coverings, wall-boarding, "leather," clothing (including artificial silk stockings) and transparent wrapping papers. And next? Perhaps something like this:—

The equinoctial gales and violent storms of the past few days have thrown up many thousands of tons of seaweed on the beaches of South Coast resorts. Local authorities are at their wits' ends to know what to do with the weed, which is beginning to stink. . . .

It has happened more than once in the last twelve years.





HALF-TIMBERED HOUSES AT EAST HENDRED, BERKSHIRE

## A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By  
**Major C. S. JARVIS**

**A** CORRESPONDENT who lives on a river's bank recounts the amusing and interesting sight of three moorhens seeing off a roaming stoat from their domain. The fact that there were three moorhens suggests that a neighbour kindly came to the assistance of the pair on whose property the stoat was trespassing, since it is unlikely that a bird of this year's hatch would be sufficiently mature to take part in such a dangerous operation. The tactics adopted were of the hostile demonstration type, the three birds advancing in a semi-circle with drooped wings and raised hackles and looking as menacing as a moorhen can look, which, one must admit, is not particularly awe-inspiring. The stoat, which obviously was concerned only with water voles and had no desire for a wild-fowl dinner, was annoyed about the interruption of his hunt and made short rushes at the birds to drive them off, which the moorhens avoided by a fluttering retreat, immediately falling in again to continue their threatening advance. In the end the stoat gave it up as a bad job and went off to another hunting-ground, whereupon the three moorhens celebrated their victory with exaggerated tail jerks and much derisory clucking.

\* \* \*

**I** THINK this is the first time I have ever heard of a moorhen asserting itself in any way, since this small water-bird is so essentially one that "keeps itself to itself." Its one idea seems to be to avoid all the various riparian disagreements and upsets that occur in the wild-fowl world, and to live its peaceful, uneventful life in some quiet rush-grown corner of the stream. Although practically every hundred yards of a suitable river accommodates a pair of these small water-birds, I often think that what

the moorhen really appreciates, when it can find it, is some small pond that is its exclusive property, and where the hen can raise her family without any interference from swans, ducks, the fisherman with his swishing cast, and the roaming gunner with his water dog.

\* \* \*

**I**N one of Mr. Hussey's articles on Powerscourt, Viscount Powerscourt's seat in Co. Wicklow, he mentioned how on the occasion of the visit of George IV to the mansion in 1821 the waterfall in the gardens, which is not always in good form during dry summers, was dammed up temporarily to enable it to provide a really good head of water to impress Royalty. Owing to Royalty sitting over its wine considerably longer than was expected, the dam performed its task too efficiently, and it was a matter of luck when His Majesty went down after dinner to view the feature that he was not carried away on the surging flood that followed the release of the water and swept away the bridge on which he was to stand.

This desire to impress V.I.P.s, whether they were royal, military or political, used to be known in the Army as "eye-wash," but I do not know if the expression is still in use, since present-day conditions do not lend themselves to artificial demonstrations intended to impress, and present-day eyes are usually too discerning to be taken in by "wash." It is my experience that Royalty, whether it be Occidental or Oriental, is extremely quick on the uptake, most observant and most unlikely to be deceived by "eye-wash."

**A** VERY good instance of this occurred in Egypt some twenty years ago. The late King Fuad, the father of the present King, was among many other things a keen and most knowledgeable arborist, and something in the nature of a specialist in the cultivation of the date palm. On the occasion of his first visit to the Oasis of Siwa in the heart of the Libyan desert the Royal party were to halt for the night at the half-way rest-house, which is situated in a particularly waterless and barren part of this desert. To improve the appearance of the dreary place, and to brighten up things generally for His Majesty, the senior Egyptian officer who was in charge of the expedition arranged for two 30 ft. date palms to be transported from the coast and put in the ground by the rest-house. Unfortunately the Royal visit was delayed for a day or so and the weather turned hot, so that when his Majesty arrived the condition of the unhappy rootless trees, so far from being appreciated, caused a violent explosion of Royal wrath. His Majesty quite failed to grasp that they represented a gesture of respectful loyalty and a desire to please, but preferred to regard them solely as a studied insult to his intelligence. That evening a spiral of dust travelling northwards marked the rapid progress of a motor-car which was carrying the senior Egyptian officer to some isolated spot where, like the ostrich, he could bury his head in the sand.

\* \* \*

**A** CORRESPONDENT who is an expert on old glass and matters pertaining to it has written to tell me that I am probably wrong in thinking that Robert Burns's anti-English verse on the Stirling hotel window-pane, which I mentioned in some recent Notes, was scratched on the glass by means of the poet's diamond scarf-pin. In those days, he tells me,

"doodling" on glass windows and on tableware was a playful little habit with men of fashion, and many of them carried small diamond pencils with which they were wont to inscribe, not only their names and addresses, but also their fleeting fancies in verse or otherwise, on the windows of the houses in which they stayed. One can be reasonably sure, my correspondent writes, that Burns possessed one of these pencils, but not so certain that he wore a diamond scarf-pin.

ONE sometimes finds oneself looking back across the years and thinking what a wonderful thing it must have been to have lived in the latter part of the 18th century, but possibly it was not so wonderful as one thinks. The housewife of to-day, after a visit from a subaltern nephew, may have to concern herself as to whether there are any cigarette burns in the sheets and if they will come back from the very dilatory laundry in time for the next visitor. She does not, however, have to rush up to the bedroom at once to see if there is anything scratched on the window-pane that is calculated to upset the next occupant of the room, who may possibly be an archdeacon. If a more or less respectable middle-aged poet could write such a libellous verse on a public window, one shudders to think of some of the merry little jingles one might find indelibly inscribed after a visit by one of the younger set.

I HAVE to record with sorrow mingled with gladness the loss of another old and trusted friend. After eleven years of striving I have at last been put on the electric-light main, and so this morning an engineer driving a lorry called with a cheque in his hand and removed from its shed the small engine complete with batteries that has been my constant companion for nine long years of peace and war, and two years of something for which I have not yet discovered a suitable name.

Like all old friends it has given me some anxious moments: there have been times when its health has not been too good, with marked internal weakness manifesting itself, and there have been other times when it has been so boisterously energetic that it has loosened the bolts which held it to its concrete foundation. Perhaps it would be fair to say that I never really understood my old friend, since I am not an engineer by either birth, training or instinct, and my inefficient brain has never quite grasped the exact difference between a volt, a kilowatt and an ampère. I do know that it is a 50-volt set, that each cell holds, or ought to hold, 2 volts, and that there are 27 cells, which means that one has 2 over for luck, and, as every amateur electrical engineer knows, one does require some luck with a small lighting set.

I do know also that it ought to charge at 10 ampères, but usually prefers to do it at 7 or

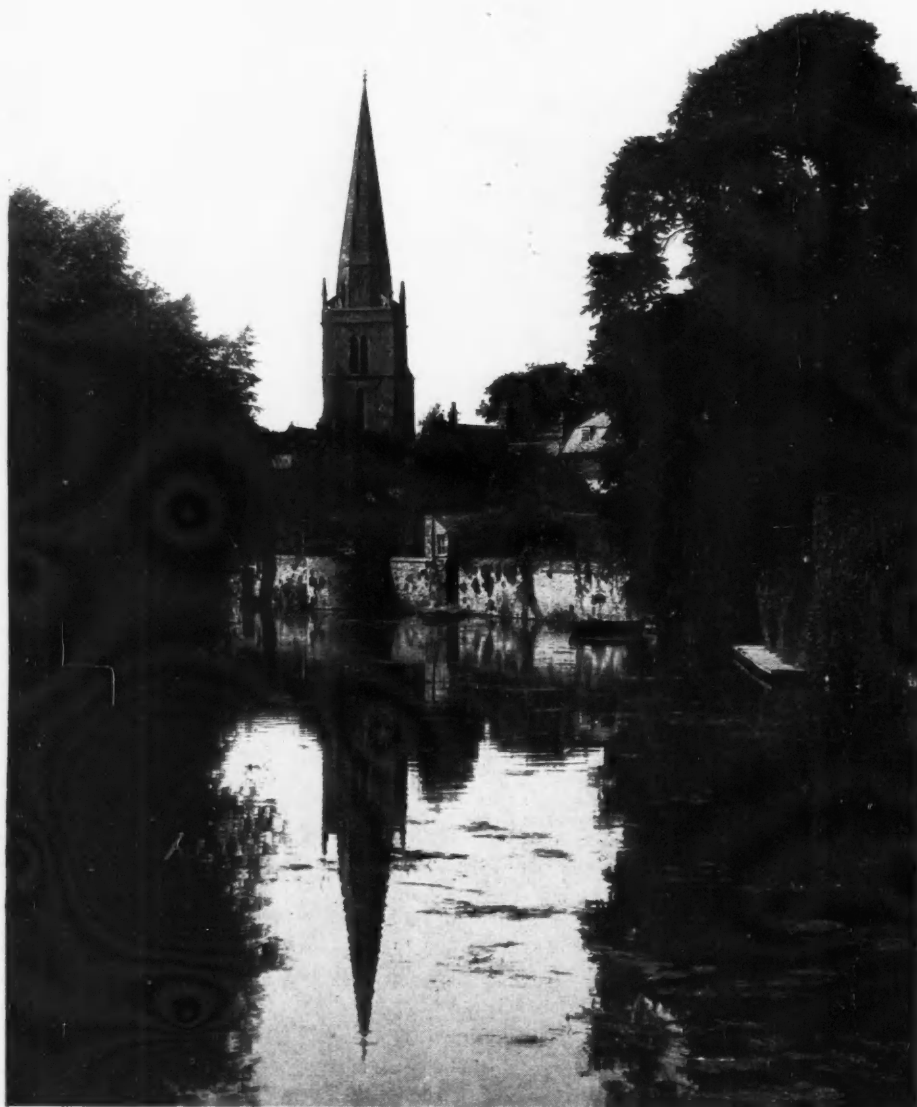
8, thereby expending more time and petrol, which I have had to explain away to the Regional Petroleum Officer every four months; and I do know in addition that there is an hydrometer which registers specific gravity, and which dribbles acid over one's clothes every time it is lifted out of the cell in which it lives.

NOW the dear old plant, dripping tears of acid and oil, has gone away for ever in the electrician's lorry and, since in this world one looks back always on the bright side, I shall remember with a lump in my throat those rare and happy days when the engine ran with soundless strokes of its piston and without one screech from the axle, while the hydrometer rose steadily in its watery bed of 2,500 acid solution. I shall forget entirely those nights when the lights were too dim to enable one to read, and when the engine stubbornly refused to start owing to some major or minor trouble. Also, I shall fail to recall those other periods when, with some serious internal disorder in the dynamo, we were reduced to lamps and candles for a week or more.

Shakespeare told us that parting is such sweet sorrow, and in this particular instance I feel inclined to agree, since, without adopting the tactics of a "spiv" or the recognised facial features of a black marketer, I obtained for the plant exactly three times the price I paid for it eleven long years ago.

## FROM OXFORD TO THE CHANNEL

By R. T. LANG



Humphrey and Vera Joel

1.—TOWER AND SPIRE OF ST. HELEN'S CHURCH, ABINGDON, FROM THE THAMES

CAN you imagine John Ruskin as a rival of Telford and Macadam? That High Priest of Art made great experiments in road-making on the road south from Oxford through New Hinksey, which might have had beneficial results if he had continued along this walk of life. At any rate, it is a good road that begins the run to Southampton, unrelentingly southward all the way. Bagley Wood, a glorious blend of oak and birch, bluebells and bracken in the spring, so alluring nowadays, was once a robbers' haunt; here St. Edward of Abingdon was attacked, but allowed to go free when he had proved his poverty. To the right lies Sunningwell, where Roger Bacon made a talking machine, a brazen head which spoke, invented the camera obscura and spectacles and prophesied, in 1273, that flying would one day become universal.

Then into Abingdon, which has been a historic town since Cissa founded an abbey there in 675. Offa of Mercia built a palace at Abingdon; the Conqueror spent Easter there in 1084, when he liked the place so much that he left his son Henry Beauclerc (afterwards Henry I) to be educated at it. In 1645 the Earl of Essex and Sir William Waller held the town against Charles I; with their Irish prisoners they instituted "Abingdon law," which was to hang a man first then try him after. Later Abingdon settled down into a prosperous cloth-making town; it is now a market centre. A 15th-century gateway is the main relic of the abbey (Fig. 2); St. Nicholas' church is 14th-century, and the tower of St. Helen's church (Fig. 1) 12th century. The latter is one of the four churches in England that possess five aisles. The picturesque Christ's Hospital of 1553 is rich in old carving and other relics of a bygone day; Twitty's Hospital was built in 1707. There is a genuine Jacobean schoolroom in the grammar school, founded in 1563. In the market-place stands the town hall of 1677, the council chamber of which contains in a Charles II room pictures by Gainsborough, Lely and others. Queen Victoria's jubilee statue has been moved to Abbey House grounds. The Court records show us what life was like under the Commonwealth, for we find a man being fined 3s. 4d. for swearing, another 10s. for drawing beer on Sunday, another 10s. for travelling on that day.

The road runs easily through Drayton, where there is a very beautiful 15th-century alabaster reredos in the 13th-century church; then into Steventon, picturesquely surrounding its broad village green. Along the main street is a pretty, tree-bordered flood-path, with some



timbered houses (Fig. 3) one of which bears the date 1597. The church goes back to 1180, but is mostly 13th-century, with some good old oak in its pews and Jacobean pulpit. Five miles more bring one to a spot famous to sportsmen. At the corner where the Ilsley road joins in there once stood a house in the stable of which Eclipse, one of the most famous of racehorses, was foaled. Trained over these downs, he was never beaten in his eighteen races in 1769-70; his wins became so monotonous that they gave rise to the saying "Eclipse first, the rest nowhere." East Ilsley is famous especially for its August sheep fair, when the roads demand patience from every other user. Its 12th-15th-century church, in addition to a Norman font, a Jacobean pulpit and some old glass, had once a clock without a dial, which gave rise to a local quatrain:

*Sleepy Ilsley, drunken people,  
Got a church without a steeple;  
And what is more, to their disgrace,  
They've got a clock without a face!*

The road now becomes hilly, past Beedon Hill, where Wulfhere, King of Mercia, defeated the West Saxons in the 7th century; the 12th-century church, in the village to the right, has a mass clock, a font that is probably of the same age as the church and a bell-cot supported by a wooden framework. In Chieveley church, two miles farther on, there is a mural tablet to Mistress Lucy Fincher, who died in 1677 "in ye 3 yeare of her age." So on to Donnington, where the castle, of which only the gatehouse (Fig. 5) is standing now, was bought by Thomas Chaucer, son of the great Geoffrey, in 1415. It was attacked in the Civil War, but held out for the King till his capitulation. After crossing the bridge the road passes the site, on the right, of the second battle of Newbury (1644); then on and through Newbury (see COUNTRY LIFE, July 5, 1941), and away southward on an open, pretty, road, for 13 miles to Whitchurch. Seven miles out of Newbury the road climbs over the side of Beacon Hill, 859 feet high (Fig. 4), passing, over a mile



2.—THE MAIN RELIC OF THE ABBEY AT ABINGDON IS THE 15th-CENTURY GATEWAY

farther on, to the right, the Seven Barrows, relics of the Bronze Age in which charcoal, flints and a bronze pin have been found. Litchfield was the scene of a great battle in Saxon days, and there are some Norman features in its restored church.

Whitchurch, which sent two members to Parliament till 1832, shows, in common with so many other little towns, how the south of England was vastly over-represented in Parliament till the Reform Act. Until that date great cities like Birmingham and Manchester had been unrepresented, but places like Whitchurch had their full quota of members. There were even instances where only one or two voters were returning their men to the House of Commons.

The White Hart Inn is an old coaching-house. Just round the corner stands the old church, much restored in 1868; it still contains, however, much Norman, 13th- and 15th-century work, 17th-century figures and brasses of the Brook family and a Saxon gravestone of the 10th century, commemorating one Frithurga.

Beyond Whitchurch comes more open, sweeping downland, past the ancient earthwork of Tidbury Ring, on the right of the road, reminding us that here we are passing through an area that was thickly populated in prehistoric times. Only earthworks, stones and barrows remain to tell us the little we know of that strange race. Sutton Scotney, now but a village, was a famous stopping-place in the coaching days. Then straight as an arrow the road runs over Worthy Down into Winchester (see COUNTRY LIFE, September 21, 1945), once the capital of England. A mile beyond it, on the left, is the far-famed Hospital of St. Cross, one of the oldest charitable institutions in the kingdom (Fig. 6). It was founded about 1136, to be partly rebuilt by Cardinal Beaufort, in 1446. It was he who made provision for poor brethren, who were to be of gentle birth or to have been employed in his own service. There are now 27 brethren, each of whom has his own house and a weekly income. The Wayfarer's Dole, a horn of beer and a portion of bread, is still given to the extent of the available quantity of each. In the church, finished about 1385, there is some of the finest Norman architecture in England. The lectern looks like an eagle, but closer inspection will show that it is more like a parrot, with a heart above. It was intended to convey that the Bible should be read with heart and understanding, not "gabbled."

There is an interesting feature in the old church of Compton—a board setting out its history from 1015. Just beyond it, on the bankside on the left, stands a simple war memorial to the memory of "the men who marched along this road between 1914 and 1918." So down to Otterbourne, where the screen, erected in 1903, is a memorial to Charlotte M. Yonge, popular novelist of the 19th century. There is also a granite cross to John Keble, the author of *The Christian Year*, who held this living along with that of Hursley. Just beyond the village,



E. W. Tattersall

3.—TUDOR COTTAGES AT STEVENTON, BERKSHIRE, NOW THE PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL TRUST



4.—LOOKING OVER THE KENNET VALLEY TOWARDS THE BERKSHIRE DOWNS FROM BEACON HILL, HAMPSHIRE

on the right, is the lane down which the charcoal-burner's cart brought the body of William Rufus, after the tragedy in the New Forest. There is a delightful run through the pine woods, then past the side of the common of 360 acres, which is a survival of the great Hampshire forest, direct down into Southampton, a far more interesting town than many who just pass through it on the way to or from America imagine.

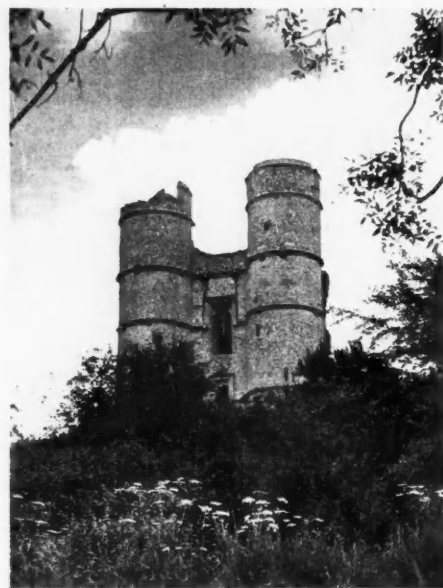
It is probable that there were early British settlers there before the rise of the Roman fortress of Clausentum in the 1st century A.D. The Saxons named it Hamtun; the "South" was added in the 10th century. Canute established himself there; then, because of its proximity to Normandy, the Normans developed a particular liking for the place. Through the succeeding centuries it was a great trading port; in the reign of George III it became a popular spa; now it is the main port of embarkation for America. The Guildhall, over the Norman-arched Bar Gate, is 14th century; the Tudor House, in St. Michael's Square, now a museum, was, it is said, visited by Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn. The 14th-century Woolhouse was used, over 200 years ago, as a prison for Spanish soldiers; the grammar school, founded in 1553, was reorganised in 1875. A bowling-green, the Old Green, is one of the oldest bowling-greens in England, having been in use since 1299. On the West Quay is a stone that was dedicated on August 15, 1913, by the American ambassador, to the pilgrims of the *Mayflower* who sailed from this spot for America in their ship of only 175 tons.

Few of the churches are very old, although the parish has existed since Saxon days. St. Michael's is a relic of the 11th century. The Germans destroyed three of the churches in their air raids, including the beautiful work of G. E. Street at St. Mary's. It was at the 18th-century Dolphin Hotel (which was badly damaged

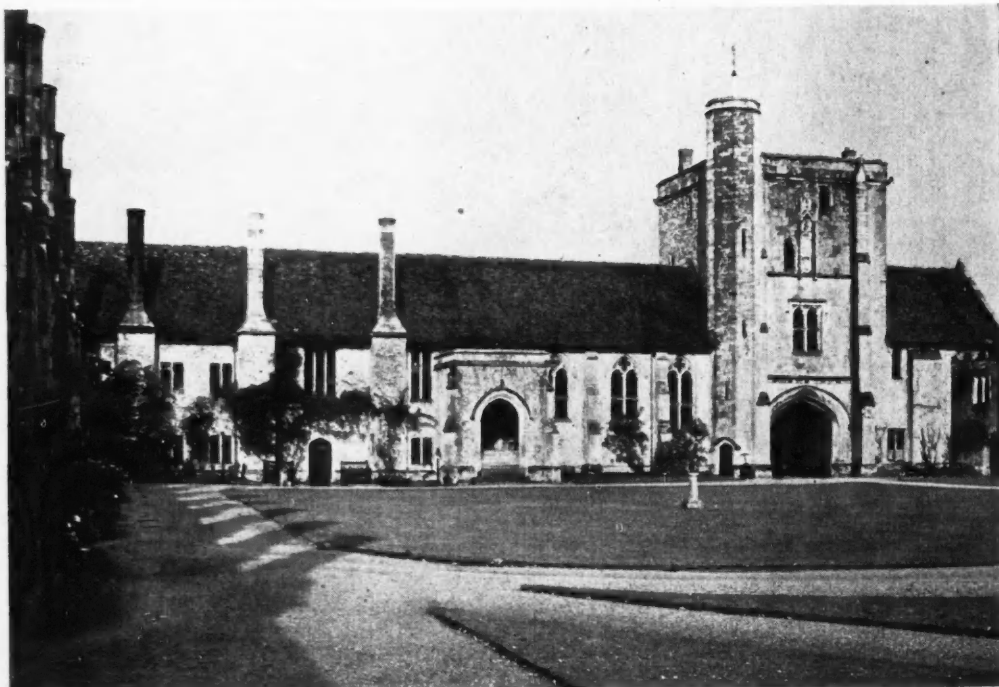
in the air raids) that W. M. Thackeray wrote part of *Pendennis*; at the Star Hotel is a room that was used by the Princess Victoria when she came here. It is to Southampton that we owe the stage-coach, for the Earl of Arundel started the first one from there, in 1580. So little was it thought of that in 1601 an Act of Parliament was passed making it illegal for men to ride in stage-coaches (which took their name from the "stages" at which they stopped to change horses) because it was considered to be effeminate. This Act was repealed in 1625. With all these and many other memories South-

ampton is a worthy town, not the least for its good faring, for did not Samuel Pepys, when he dined with the mayor in April, 1663, make special comment on "the sturgeon of their own catching and well ordered"?

My most amusing recollection of Southampton was when, one evening, while I was dining at the principal hotel, a large party of women came in, having just landed from an American ship. The courteous waiter came round to see what they wished to drink. One ferocious-looking matron looked him over from head to toe, then replied, "Young man, we have come to rescue you from the Devil," while she handed him a card bearing a motto, which I could see from the adjoining table, saying "We're all teetotallers here." They were a band of American "crusaders" who had come over at the time of "Pussyfoot" Johnson's campaign. The English waiter, to the credit of his profession, bowed and thanked her as courteously as if she had been a film star handing him a generous tip.



5.—ALL THAT REMAINS OF THE 14th-CENTURY CASTLE AT DONNINGTON, BERKSHIRE, IS THE GATEHOUSE WITH ITS MASSIVE TWIN TOWERS



6.—BEAUFORT'S TOWER AT THE HOSPITAL OF ST. CROSS, WINCHESTER, ONE OF THE OLDEST CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS IN THE COUNTRY

Reece Winstone



# TWO DOG DEALERS AND A DOG

By J. WENTWORTH DAY

OLD Abner Harvey lived a hermit's life, a wiry, fierce, little man, in a turf cabin at the Norfolk broad's end of that green lane which they call Catfield Common, since it was, and still is, a lane running through common land down to a dyke which winds through dense reed-beds and shallows into Hickling Broad.

The walls, which still stand, roofless and windowless, are a foot and a half thick, of plain mud, bound together with straw and reeds. The house was tarred outside and whitewashed within, well windowed, and with beamed ceilings, good doors and a thatched roof. Such a house is warm in winter and cool in summer, water-tight, and windproof. It will last a hundred and fifty years and cost a tittle of the pre-fabricated shacks we see so much of to-day.

I thought of my own lath-and-plaster little manor house in the Fens, still gracious, warm, and welcoming after five hundred years of life, and I thought too of that other mud-and-tar-and-thatch cabin in Catfield Common Lane, where a mother reared a family of thirteen boys. Not one is under six feet, and eleven of them are London policemen, fit and able to tuck a Londoner under each arm and take them home for breakfast.

They are of the same breed as old Abner, who dealt in dogs for a living and fought for his beer.

He would leave his mud-walled house with its roof of thatch at the end of the dyke, where the mallard spattered in the moonlight and reed-warblers sang in the sun, and go to Norwich Market.

There, on the hill in that gay and coloured market, where men sell everything from kippers to Bibles, boots and roses, rabbits and bright scarves, Abner would buy dogs. He also bought dogs in little back alleys of that most English city, from gypsies with black hair and gold ear-

## RETURN

*Oh, do not tell me that the country lane  
Where long ago we wove our daisy-chain  
Of youth no longer hears the blackbird sing  
Or hides the first shy primroses of spring.*

*How green those hedges where we used to climb  
Led by a frightened bird, at nesting-time,  
I all boy-eagerness, you half afraid  
Lest she desert those eggs so neatly laid.*

*When autumn dressed our lane in gold and red  
We jumped for hazel-nuts far overhead,  
Scrambled where biggest blackberries sought to hide,  
Laughing at lips and fingers purple-dyed.*

*If truly all be gone we called our own  
I will not break my heart on bricks and stone,  
But pass no more that way, and only see  
Our lane still lovely as it used to be.*

B. R. GIBBS.

rings, the real Norfolk Romany, who is as pure as two thousand years of wandering can make him, and brought them home to Catfield. I said brought them. The truth is they followed him. Abner would buy a strange dog in a hubbub of voices and a parliament of beer and tobacco-smoke, talk to it, quietly fondle its ears—and the trick was done. The dog would follow through all the streets to the carrier's van or the dickey and cart, and home to the roof of thatch by the murmuring reeds. His influence on them was uncanny. Dogs would follow him anywhere, do anything for him. So Abner got high prices for his dogs, mongrel or otherwise.

But when he wanted beer he fought for it. And woe to the man who challenged him. Abner

would walk into an inn, quietly size up a likely customer twice his own size and three times as ugly, pick a quarrel or start an argument, and then challenge him for a couple of quarts and a half-sovereign in side bets if he could get them on. Then the fun started. Stools and benches were pushed back, men huddled to the walls, and the scrap was on. Sawdust, oaths, and bets flew as fast as the fists hammered. The hobnails struck sparks from the floor, and Abner "tapped the claret." As often as not he knocked his man out.

Things got to such a pass that even in that tear-'em-and-eat-'em county of Norfolk, Abner

bowed my head and entered a pandemonium of puppies, fleas, howls, and yappings.

"I want a cross-bred retriever," I said. "A keeper's chuck-out. An Airedale cross will do, for it will have a stout heart, or a pointer or setter cross, but no 'look-dogs.' And my price is a pound."

"There you are," says Charlie. "Lovely litter. All pure bred Labradors. Pure as the lily. Lovely heads. Good stops. Look at the width! Brains there. Strong feet, too. Swim anything. Gallop a plough. As lovely a lot of Labradors as a man could wish to walk with."

I contemplated a squirming maelstrom of black-and-white, black-and-tan, black-and-yellow minute monstrosities, and picked from the witch's kettle a near-black thing like an otter kitten with a look of beagle pup about its feet and legs.

"Here you are—by a beagle out of a Labrador bitch," said I. "And all for a pound!"

"Pure-bred Labrador that is. Win at Cruft's. Pick a mallard in December or find a woodcock in holly," said Charlie. "It's yours, sir. And thirty bob to you!" It just slipped in my pocket.

Four months later Soapey Sponge, now a coal-black Labrador with foxhound or beagle legs and nose, was retrieving a partridge, picking wood-pigeons out of the snow, putting rabbits out of rhododendrons, standing naturally to snipe, going quite earnestly mad on a fox-

trail, and working a stubble as though to the manner born—which is, and can only be, the true secret of his versatility.

This is the third cross-bred gun-dog I have had which has seemed to be born to the gun, took to it from puppyhood, and had the heart of a lion and the manners of a gentleman. For the rest; constant companionship with master

## LONG AGO

*ALL tranced lay the house and field and lawn,  
No wind disturbed the noon's enchantment there;*

*With springs of arrowy notes each painted dawn  
Birds splintered all the bright mercurial air.*

*Hushed was the vast gold of the buttercup,  
The morning shadows potent with surprise;  
Evening a green-winged glimmer gathered up—  
I saw it thus when I was young and wise.*

*And have longed since to see it thus again,  
Meadow and spire, thorn tree and nestling wren:  
Or is it that I seek, and seek in vain,  
The heart with which I looked upon it then?*

DOROTHY BERNARD.

and mistress, firm but kind discipline, sensible feeding, which includes no biscuits, plenty of gravy and vegetables, half a pint of warm weak tea a day—"never get distemper if you put the tannin in their stomachs," says Charlie—and a half-pint of beer at night. The results are lions in dogskins.

Above all, begin the elements of training—come, sit, heel, seek, and carry—as soon as possible. Soapey began at eight weeks, and at six months, which is the age at which many dogs begin to learn their A B C, was an intelligent and useful companion for a day's rough shooting. He had by then travelled nearly three thousand miles by train and car. To-day he is a first-class wild-fowl shooter's dog, swims like a motor-boat, fears no man, and is father of nine puppies, "the Nine Bog Dog Wonders." I have christened the quickest-witted Abner.



THE AUTHOR WITH HIS HALF-BRED RETRIEVER, SOAPEY SPONGE

# AN EXHIBITION OF BELGIAN LACE

By  
MARGARET  
JOURDAIN



(Left)  
1.—CORNELIUS DE  
VOS: *THE PAINTER  
AND HIS FAMILY*  
Royal Museum of Fine  
Arts, Brussels



(Right)  
2.—NICOLAS MAES:  
*THE DREAMER*  
Royal Museum of Fine  
Arts, Brussels

**B**RUSSELS lace, "the most light and costly of all manufactures," in the words of a Scottish visitor in 1787, was an ideal article for exportation during the 18th and 19th centuries, and the delicacy of its fabric and the fineness of its thread were then legendary. The earliest piece of Flemish lace to which a definite date can be assigned is the bedspread of the Archduke Albert and the Archduchess Isabella (Fig. 6). The fabric, which is of unbleached linen thread, is divided into square compartments, many of which are filled with figures and figure-subjects from the Bible and legend which have been identified by Monsieur Van Overloop. Among them are Adam and Eve, the repudiation of Hagar by Abraham, the Judgment of Solomon, the Annunciation, the Adoration of the Kings, the Resurrection, St. George (or St. Michael) and the Dragon, and St. Gudule, the patron saint of Brussels.

In one compartment are the interlaced initials of the Archduke Albert of Austria and

of his wife; in others are worked the arms of Brabant, Spain, and England, the lily of France, and the eagle of Austria. The border is worked with a series of emperors, and at the corners are figures of the archduke and his wife, in robes of state. The bedspread commemorates their marriage, and their "joyous entry" on their accession to the sovereignty of the Southern Netherlands in 1599, long gratefully remembered by their subjects.

Lace-making was one of the arts for which the people of the Belgian provinces (and more especially of the Flemish provinces) had a special gift, and lace has a conspicuous place in the portrait groups of the 17th and 18th centuries, where every detail of embroidery, *galon* and lace is recorded with lively realism. At the Belgian Government's exhibition at the Wildenstein galleries in New Bond Street lace from the great Belgian museums and private collections can be seen side by side with paintings which are evidence of the lavish use of lace on the

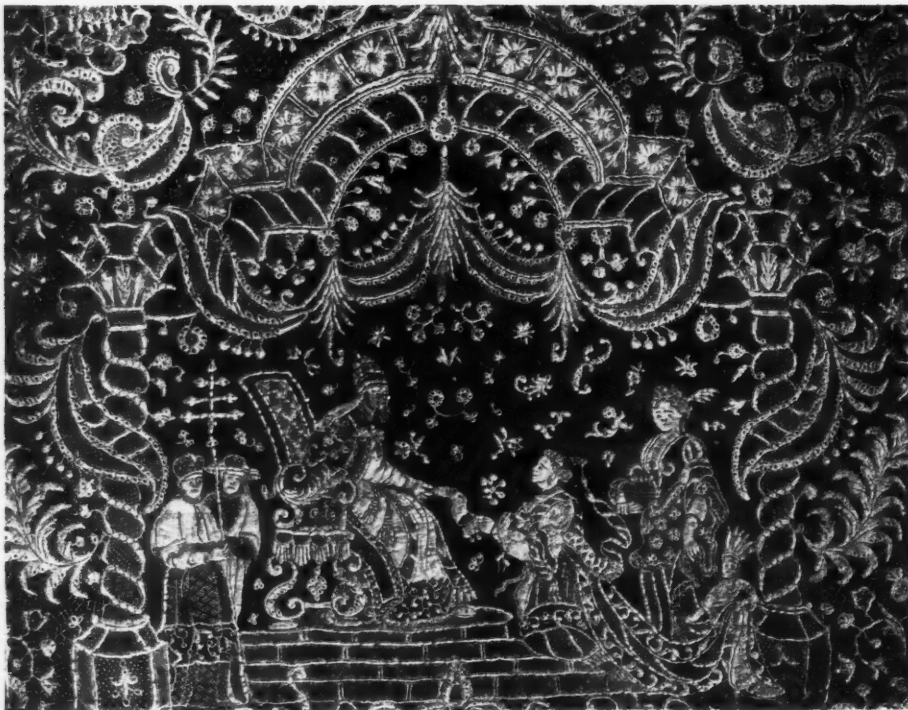
cuffs, ruffs and collars of personages painted by Cornelius de Vos (Fig. 1), Rubens and the younger David Teniers. In addition there are paintings such as that of *The Dreamer* (Fig. 2) by Nicolas Maes of Dordrecht (1632-93) where the old lace-maker is painted with lace in progress on her pillow.

In the last years of the 16th and in the early 17th century the lace-making industry spread widely in Belgium, extending from Valenciennes to Antwerp, and from Lille to Bruges. The early pillow lace of geometrical design gave place about 1630 to a type with a scalloped border in which flat, tape-like lines formed a symmetrical formal ornament. This lace had a vogue for about thirty years; then a design with a straight edge and an almost opaque ground was in fashion about 1660, to be followed by effective foliate scrolling patterns. During the last quarter of the 17th century the influence of the State-aided French lace industry becomes manifest and French design gave a new life and direction to the Belgian lace industry.

All lace made in these districts was marketed under the general term Flanders lace during the greater part of the 17th century, and it was not until the reign of Anne that "Macklin" (Mechlin) and "Brussels" was entered in the great wardrobe accounts.

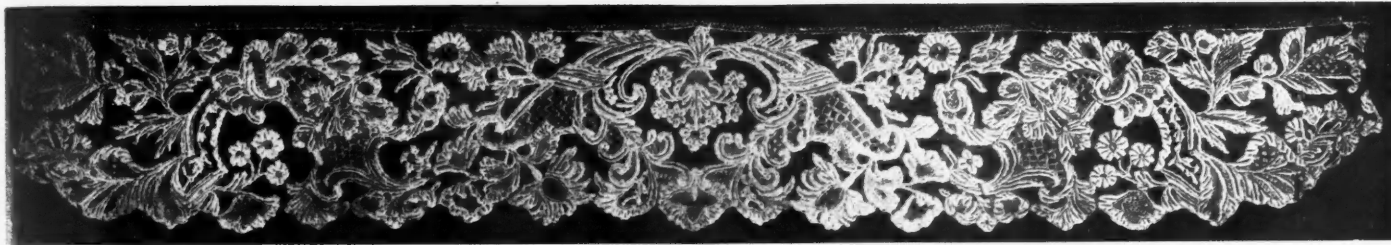
Lace changed with changing fashions. It appears first in a delicate geometric design edging ruffs and cuffs, as shown in the portrait group of the painter and his family by Cornelius de Vos (Fig. 1). To the ruff succeeded the *collet montant*, an upright collar framing the head and face, brilliantly rendered in Rubens's portrait of Jacqueline van Caestre (1617) from the Brussels Museum of Fine Arts, where this light lace forms "vandykes" round the collar. Finally, the collar became the "falling band," spreading flat upon the shoulders, bordered with a lace finishing in rounded scallops. This form of collar is frequently shown in portraits and groups dating from between 1630 and 1660. In an engraving by Abraham de Bosse, visitors, all wearing broad lace-edged collars, are shown strolling through a shop in the gallery of the Palais Royal, in which similar collars are ranged on the wall behind the counter.

John Evelyn, describing a medal struck in 1633, writes that King Charles I wears a falling band, "which new mode succeeded the cumbersome ruff, but neither did the bishops and judges give it up so soon." It was not only bishops and judges who remained constant to the ruff; in some family groups about this time in which two generations are recorded, the young people wear the collar, while their elders wear the outmoded ruff. Samuel Pepys, always



3.—PART OF BENEDICTION VEIL WITH *FOND DE BRIDES*. Early 18th century





4.—BOTTOM OF SLEEVE IN BRUSSELS NEEDLE LACE. 18th century

in touch with novel fashions, notes in 1662 in his *Diary* the day when he put on his new lace band, "and so neat it is that (he writes) I am resolved my great expense shall be lace bands." By this date the introduction of the peruke covering the shoulders made an end of the falling collar, and the cravat, often edged with lace, took its place.

In the course of the 18th century lace was used on a multitude of accessories, such as the steinkirk, ruffles, head-dresses and lappets. Letters and journals make much of the fashion for, and the high cost of, Brussels lace. Lord Chesterfield in 1741 speaks of Brussels as "the place where most of the fine laces are made you see worn in England."

In this exhibition there is an interesting series of dated pieces (or pieces which can be dated by their subject). Earliest of these is a border of an alb made for the marriage of the Emperor Charles VI and Elizabeth of Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel in 1708. The portrait medallions of the pair, and the initials C and E are significant *motifs*. A little later in date is the border of an alb commemorating the signing of the Pragmatic Sanction in 1713, by which the Emperor Charles VI settled the law of succession for the dominions of the House of Hapsburg. A third dated piece is the benediction veil (1720) representing in the centre the invention of the Holy Cross, ascribed by legend to Saint Helena, mother of Constantine the Great.

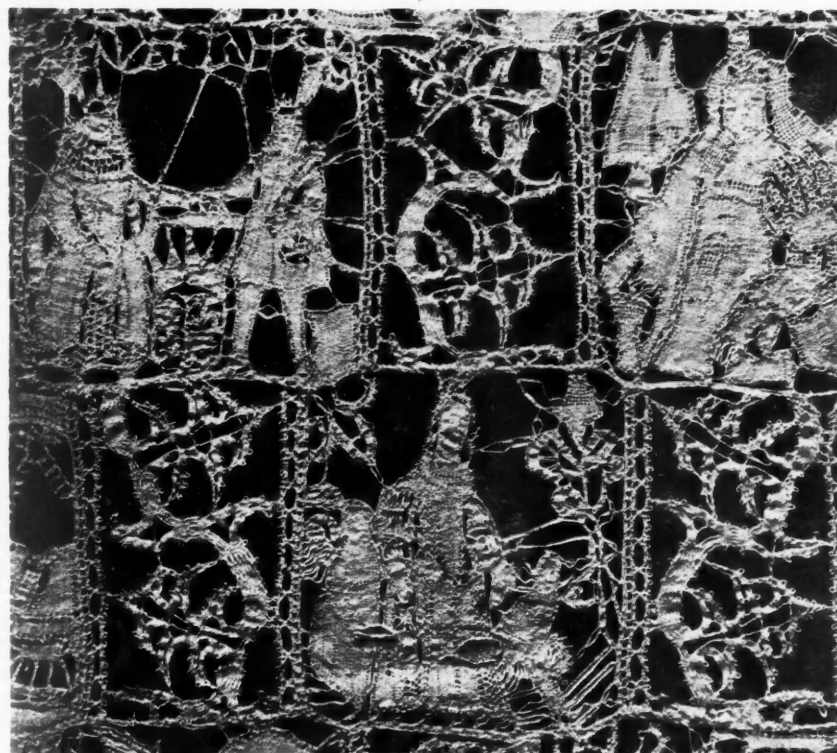
An equally finished example of Brussels technique is the veil centring in a group of a Pope handing a kneeling lady a sealed document (Fig. 3). Above them is a draped canopy surmounted by a figure of the Virgin. It will be noticed that in these and in many of these

18th-century examples, figures and groups are introduced.

The first half of the 18th century was the great age of the Brussels lace industry. Brussels was affected by the court of France, and a French taste for balanced groups of fragmentary floral sprays appears in Brussels lace to meet this demand. In England also, much Brussels lace was imported, and this lace held sway among "the gentility" in spite of endeavours to protect English manufacturers.

The late 18th century, the silver age of lace, did not offer the same scope to the lace-maker and designer. The background occupies a larger area, and the ornament, slighter and smaller in scale, does not call for the use of varied stitches.

The invention in England in 1768 of a machine for making a net ground led to a decline in the use of real lace; and the disappearance of ruffles and cravats restricted it as an adjunct to dress. Some examples of this late period show ornament

5.—CROWN OF BONNET IN MECHLIN LACE  
First half of the 18th century

6.—DETAIL OF A BEDSPREAD OF THE ARCHDUKE ALBERT AND THE ARCHDUCHESS ISABELLA. 1599

applied to a hand-made net (*droschel*) ground. A veil of this work, sprinkled with the Napoleonic emblem, the bee, and bearing at its corners a crowned eagle, was made for the cradle of the King of Rome (1811). There was a new era of prosperity, and a renewed

fashion for lace during the second Empire, when a number of varied forms and uses were developed. The Belgian lace made during the great wars forms a group completing the sequence of this industry during the past three centuries.

The quality of flax thread and the technique of Brussels lace attracted the attention of visitors in the 18th century. Lord Garden, who visited Brussels in 1787, writes that "the thread is of so exquisite a fineness that they cannot make it in this country." The flax of Courtrai is "a staple of unapproached excellence," and valuable on account of its fineness, strength and bright colour.

The pillow laces of Belgium can be divided into those made with a continuous thread (*fil continue*) on a stationary pillow (such as laces of Antwerp, Mechlin, Binche and Valenciennes), and those worked in separate sections on a pillow that may be moved to allow the lace-maker to follow the curves of the ornament. These separate pieces were afterwards united by a ground of bars (*brides*) or of mesh (*reseau*). A division of labour was noted as a feature of Brussels lace in 1756, when Mrs. Calderwood, who visited the Béguinage at Brussels, describes the manufacture as "very curious." "One (she writes) works the flowers; they are all sold separate." The masters then gave the sections out to be grounded, and, after this, the work is "given to a third hand, who 'hearts' all the flowers with the open work. This is what makes this lace so much dearer than the Mechlin, which is wrought all at once."

The tie-bar or *bride* was the first ground used in Brussels lace, but had been discontinued by 1761 and was then only made to order. The mesh-ground was either needle-made, or worked on the pillow in small strips, joined by a stitch known as *point de raccroie* (a fine joining).

The exhibition, which includes some examples of Binche and Mechlin lace (Fig. 5), will be open till October 31.

# BINGHAM'S MELCOMBE, DORSET—I

## THE HOME OF LADY GROGAN

*This lovely Dorset house, lying in a remote valley in the heart of the county, was for over six centuries in the possession of the Binghams.*

By ARTHUR OSWALD

BINGHAM'S MELCOMBE was one of the Dorset houses chosen by Joseph Nash a century ago to figure in his *Mansions of England in the Olden Time*. Like Athelhampton, Cranborne Manor House and Waterston, it had all the romantic qualities to appeal to a generation brought up on the Waverley novels, to which Nash's lithographs of halls and manor houses peopled with costumed figures of bygone days supplied an attractive and highly popular antiquarian commentary. At Bingham's Melcombe, Nash's original water-colour hangs in the hall along with the lithograph, but in the latter a group of Binghams, apparently of James I's reign, has been substituted for the lady in the Vandyck dress and her lap dog. The picture has not altered after a hundred years, as will be seen by comparing the water-colour (Fig. 6) with our photograph (Fig. 5), taken at the same time in the afternoon when the shadow strikes across the Tudor oriel. Even the clumps of hydrangeas on the raised terrace in front of the hall are still there but blooming in greater profusion to-day.

More persuasively than any house that I know, Bingham's Melcombe is able to convey the comforting suggestion that time can stand still. Since the war has left its mark on so many country houses, one hardly dared to hope that after fourteen years all would be the same. But it was. Nothing seemed to have changed. The gardens were as lovely as ever, the creased face of the old yew hedge

was still close-shaven and trim, the lawn below (it was before the August drought) had the colour and texture of green velvet. Here, at least, time had not marched on. Last winter Dorset, like every other part of England, lay deep under snow, but in the mind's eye it is always summer at Bingham's Melcombe and always afternoon. Both Nash's water-colour and Mr. Henson's photographs are in the conspiracy to maintain this happy illusion.

Because it is so refreshing to-day to be able to point to something and say, "At least,

this has not altered," there is no need to apologise for this third appearance of the house in the pages of COUNTRY LIFE. On the last occasion, in 1914, the photographs were, unaccountably, taken in winter and failed to bring out the full beauty of the place, which must be seen when the trees that embower it are in full foliage and the sun is drenching the stonework. This time, we think we have done better; and so, if excuse be needed, excuse there is.

There are several ways of approaching Bingham's Melcombe, depending on what town you are coming from. The two nearest stations—Blandford and Dorchester—are each eight miles away as the crow flies and more like ten as the roads wind. The deep combe in which the house lies is one of a series of valleys carved out of the central Dorset Heights by southward-flowing streams, which have turned these chalk uplands into a succession of ridges and furrows as though they were an immense verdure tapestry draped in folds across the county. In the next valley to the east lies Milton Abbey; Cerne Abbas nestles in the next but three to the west. Melcombe—perhaps the mill combe, though no mill is mentioned in Domesday Book—has been formed by the Dewlish, Develish or Devil's Brook, which courses down past the village of Dewlish to join the Piddle, Puddle or Trent, near Athelhampton. At the head of the valley, round the flank of Henning Hill to the west, lies Melcombe Horsey, taking its suffix from the family that possessed it in the 16th century, and previously known as Up Melcombe Cerne, Bruning or Turges, after earlier owners. Melcombe Horsey was the paramount manor, but the church (Fig. 9)



1.—FROM A HARVEST FIELD ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE VALLEY: THE HOUSE IN ITS SHELTERED COMBE



2.—THE GATEHOUSE. GEORGIAN WINDOWS IN MEDIEVAL WALLS





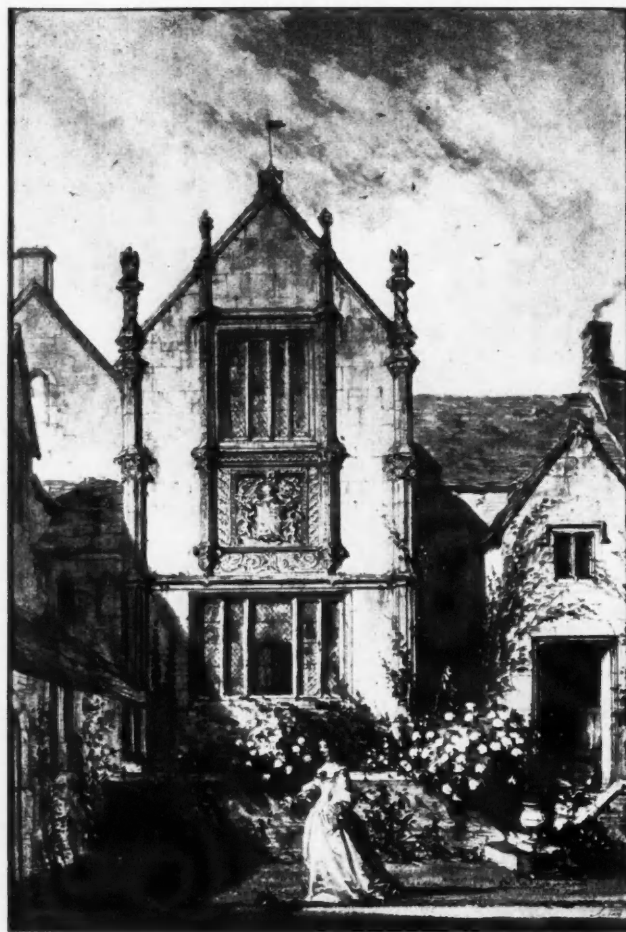
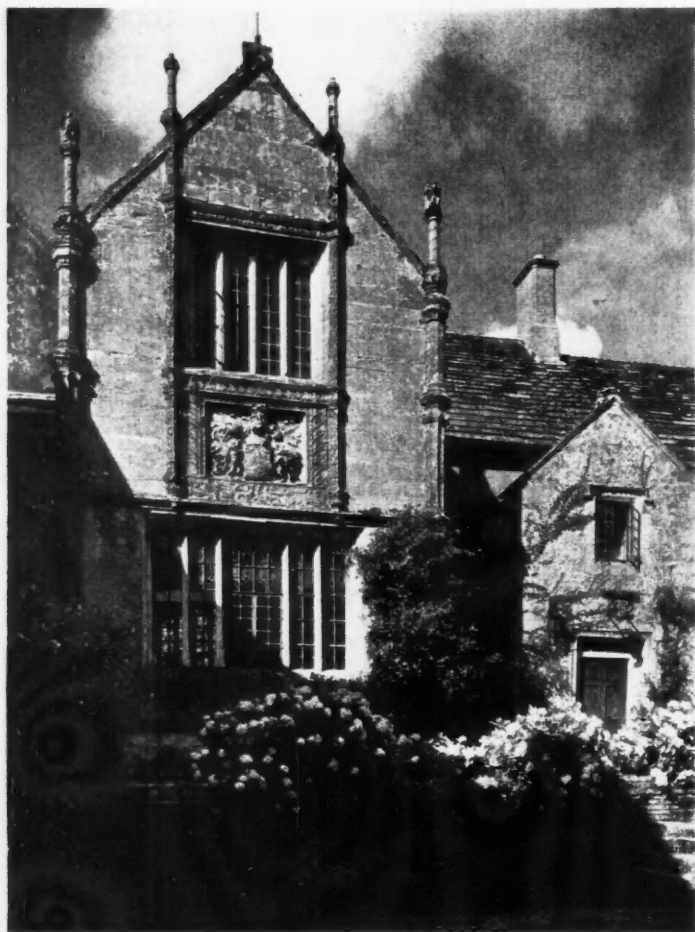
3.—INSIDE THE COURTYARD: THE HALL RANGE AND THE TUDOR ORIEL

stands at the lower end of the parish in the park of Bingham's Melcombe, south-east of the house. Built out on each side of the nave are two chapels, of which the southern was the burial-place of the Horseys, the northern of the Binghams. The village has completely disappeared; but its memory survives in a meadow called Townhays, where the foundations of dwellings are marked by irregularities in the ground.

The Binghams came to Melcombe towards the end of the 13th century and did not leave until 1895. They acquired the manor from the Turberviles, a once powerful Dorset family whose glory has long departed. In 1205 Henry de Turberville was claiming five hides in Melcumb, which his father, Robert, had held. About the end of Henry III's reign Lucy, daughter and heiress of Robert Turberville, brought the manor to the Binghams by marrying



4.—LOOKING WEST IN THE COURTYARD



5 and 6.—THE ORIEL TO-DAY, AND (right) AS DRAWN BY JOSEPH NASH A CENTURY AGO, WHEN THE HYDRANGEAS WERE ALREADY THERE

Robert, younger son of Sir Ralph de Bingham, of Sutton Bingham in Somerset. Robert Bingham's uncle had been Bishop of Salisbury (1228–46), where he continued the building of the cathedral begun by his predecessor. The family seem to have acquired their surname from a village in Nottinghamshire, in which county other branches were established. The pedigree of the Dorset Bingham shows a long chain of Roberts and Richards, but it is not until the 16th century that any of the family emerges as a definite personality. An inquisition of 1317, however, gives us the first mention of the house. In that year Richard de Bingham died seised of lands in Nether Melcombe, where he had a capital messuage and garden, 100 acres of land and 10 of meadow.

The plan of the house is of courtyard form, with the east side left open, but it is very irregular, the gatehouse being set askew to the hall range behind, perhaps on account of the lie of the ground and difference in levels. Approaching by the lane from the south, you enter the park between a pair of stone gate-piers, each crowned with the Bingham crest, an eagle taking flight. A short drive shaded by venerable elms brings you to the front of the gatehouse (Fig. 2), in which five sashed windows surmounted by keystones have been inserted by a Georgian Bingham. But the arched entrance, the pair of buttresses and the gable ends all proclaim its mediæval structure. It is probably of 14th-century date, and the thickness of its walls shows that it was built for security. To the left of the entrance there is a newel stair of oak giving access to the three rooms on the upper floor. In the east room, which is lined with Jacobean panelling and has a carved overmantel, there are visible the ends of the arched braces of the mediæval roof, otherwise concealed.

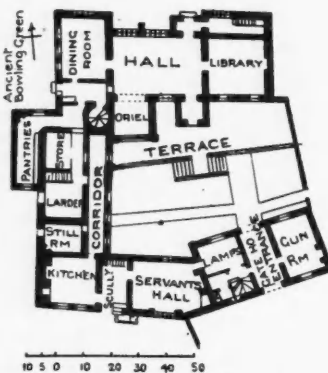
The massive form of the gatehouse and its plain features serve as an admirable foil to the beauty of the courtyard, so cunningly hidden behind it and only disclosed as you pass through the archway (Fig. 3). The entire lack of symmetry, the varying pitches and heights of the stone-slatted roofs, the two levels of the courtyard, the differing designs of window, all contribute to the highly picturesque effect which, far from being a jumble, composes delightfully from almost any angle. No two ranges meet at right angles, half the principles in the architects' text-books are disregarded, and the result is charming. It would still be charming, even without the hydrangeas, the lavender and the climbers that add the finishing touches. This is not to withhold credit from the mason who designed the Tudor oriel. He certainly knew the value of fine masonry of contrasting shades, and of plain surfaces to show off delicate detail. And later builders, Elizabethan

and Georgian, by playing down their parts left the oriel to hold the stage.

As the hall range has been much altered during the passage of centuries, it cannot be dated even approximately, but was probably of considerable age at the time when the Tudor oriel was added and the hall itself was re-constructed. The plan shows the characteristic arrangements of a mediæval manor house: a great hall entered by a porch at one end and at the opposite end a cross-wing containing a parlour and a chamber over it. The hall would probably have had a screen by the entrance and, if precedent were followed, the buttery, pantry and kitchen would have been adjacent at the east end, where are now the library and the drawing-room above it. As this end of the range was built, or rebuilt, about 1720, it is impossible to say whether the normal mediæval arrangement originally prevailed or whether the kitchen has always been where it now is, in the south-west corner of the court.

In the west range of the court, below the right-hand gable of the three seen in Fig. 4, there is a 15th-century doorway, with pointed arch and label, but it is hidden from view by the passage with the lean-to roof. This range is of mediæval date, but bedrooms were constructed in the upper part of it, perhaps early in the 17th-century, when the three mullioned windows with the gables were inserted. The walls of this range are of small rough stones laid in courses but the gables are of ashlar.

The oriel, which is in reality a south wing to the hall, having an upper room in it, was probably built in the reign of Mary Tudor, if the heraldic glass in its windows was inserted at the time when it was completed, as it is reasonable to suppose. Two of the shields bear the arms of England and Spain, presumably in allusion to Mary's marriage with Philip. The Robert Bingham who was owner



7.—GROUND PLAN



at that time succeeded his father in 1524 and died in 1561. The Italian detail of the oriel and the elaborate sculptured panel with the Bingham shield, crest and mantling supported by *putti* compare very closely with the carved Tudor screen attached to the west front of Montacute, which came from Clifton Maybank, the old home of the Horsey family near Yeovil. The same carver, no doubt, worked at both houses. It is significant that at this time the Horseys also owned the other Melcombe to which their surname is still attached and so were neighbours of Robert Bingham. The flanking shafts with their finials—the outer pair carrying the Bingham eagle—also reveal close analogies with almost contemporary work at Athelhampton Hall and Sandford Orcas, where the angle shafts show the same curious attempt to reproduce the volutes of an Ionic capital. The golden Ham Hill stone is used for all the decorative work, in contrast to grey limestone, probably from Purbeck, used for the ashlar. An unknown



9.—BINGHAM'S MELCOMBE CHURCH



8.—A GEORGIAN ALCOVE

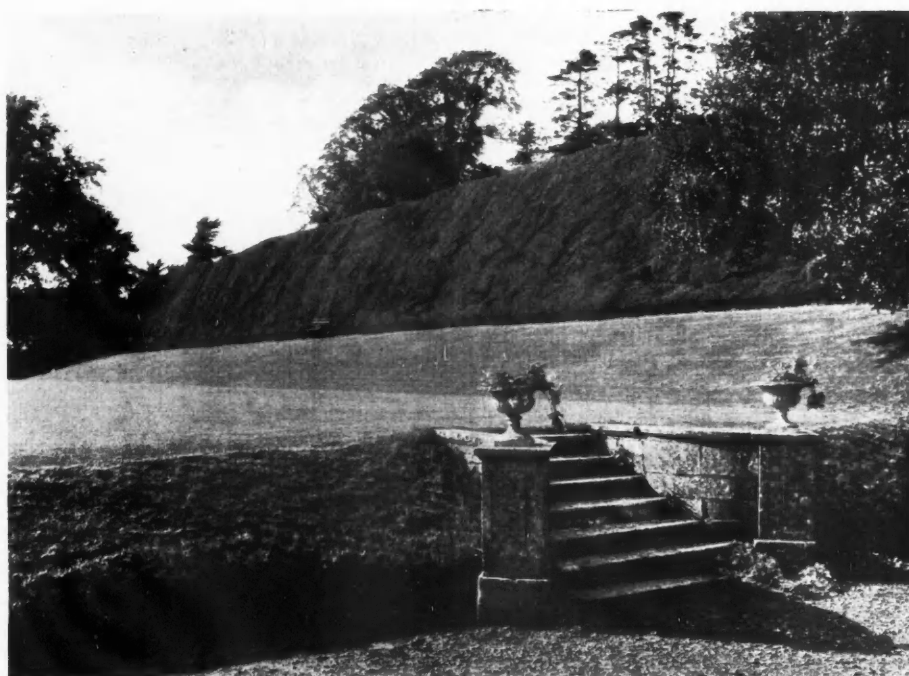
mason, or family of masons, with interests in the Ham Hill quarries and with a workshop perhaps at Yeovil or Sherborne, may have been responsible for all this Tudor work in the neighbourhood which is very individual. An Italian was probably commissioned to do the actual carving of the heraldic panel both here and at Clifton Maybank.

The gardens at Bingham's Melcombe lie to the west and north of the house. Fig. 1, taken in a harvest field on the hillside to the south-west, shows their setting and the gigantic wall of the yew hedge running out westward below the fine belt of trees sheltering the house to the north. The bowling-green (Fig. 11) lies under the southern flank of the yew hedge, at the far end of which is a pleasant little alcove in a frame of Georgian brick (Fig. 8). Behind the hedge is one of those delightful old kitchen gardens where there is room for flowers among the fruit and vegetables. At its east end is a circular dovecote (Fig. 10) similar to one at Athelhampton. Immediately behind the great hall are two tiny enclosed plots, one known as the Ladies' Garden; east of them, beyond a yard, stands a fine old thatched barn. Bounding all to the north is an avenue of giant planes, sycamores and silver firs, leading down to a wild garden with walks beside the little stream and three ancient fishponds; and on the far side rises the bare smooth slope of the down, the protective flank of this hidden valley.

(To be concluded)



10.—THE STONE DOVECOTE



11.—THE GREAT WALL OF YEW FLANKING THE BOWLING-GREEN

# THE BLACKCOCKS' REEL

Written and Illustrated by FRANCES PITT

A RED glow lightened the night sky, from which the stars were already fading, and the whistling of oyster-catchers was to be heard on all sides. It was but 4.30 a.m. by the clock and 2.30 a.m. by Greenwich Mean Time, yet we were late. If we did not hurry the birds we were going to meet would be there before us.

We got out the car, bundled ourselves and our belongings into it and sped off down the dim road with tall pines like dark sentinels in sombre ranks on either side. On and on we went, turning up a road which gave a more open view, including a vision of the mountain masses that raised snow-capped heights on the southern horizon. But we had no thought for the Cairngorm range, however superb its white tops in the rosy dawn. The crimson blaze of the Highland sunrise was beginning to fade and a grey light was creeping over the landscape. If the sun had not yet risen, day nevertheless was near at hand. Had our friends arrived?

We reached a more or less open, grassy space in the forest, that ancient pine forest that has changed little since those dim long-gone days when primitive man first came to Scotland, and brought the car to a halt on the roadside, thrusting anxious heads out of the windows. Yes, they had arrived. A curious bubbling sound was to be heard, something like the bubbling of a hen cuckoo but stronger and more persistent; moreover it came not from one throat but from many and it went on and on.

We hastily gathered the cameras, etc., climbed over a wire fence and made our way across some tussocky ground dotted with young pines to the dimly seen birds. As we approached seven or eight dark birds rose and flew off and silence fell on the scene. We had disturbed the morning gathering of the blackcock, but from what I knew of the birds it would not be long before they were back again.

The black grouse has the remarkable habit of congregating at dawn for a social dance and display. The affair is chiefly a matter for the males, which gather from some distance around, coming to a time-ordained spot such as that on which my friend and I now stood.

According to local information this lek had been used for many years, during the memory of the oldest inhabitants and their parents and grandparents before them—for one hundred years at least, said the people of the district. It was some twenty years since I had made acquaintance with the spot and the performance at dawn, and, except for a few new young fir trees on one side of the dancing-



1.—THE BLACKCOCKS' DAYBREAK REEL IN A SCOTTISH PINE FOREST

floor, everything was unchanged. Possibly the growth of the little pines had pushed the floor a few yards from its old centre, but even that was open to question.

By now the light was coming and there was no time to be lost. Two small hiding-tents had been put up side by side, making one erection sufficient to shelter two people. The fabric was weather-worn, bleached and stained, and harmonised well with the dry tussocky grass, but I doubt if the birds would have minded whatever it had looked like. From first to last they were completely indifferent to the shelter and treated it as part of their natural surroundings. It seemed as if they were too engrossed with themselves and their doings to think of anything else.

Hardly were we under canvas, hardly had we dragged the last bit of photographic apparatus within, when there was a whirr of wings, followed by more and more rushing sounds, and the blackcock were back. One alighted close in front of the tent, others here and there about the green, and all immediately began to display and posture, drooping their wings and fanning their tails like miniature turkey cocks. Their white under-tail coverts were like large white powder-puffs against the blackness of the rest of their plumage (Fig. 3) which seemed the more intensely inky-black by contrast with the vivid scarlet wattles above their eyes. These wattles seemed to glow and gleam, so intense was their crimson colour. But the great white tail rosettes were even more striking.

The moment the party dropped down on to the lek the bubbling, cooing, crowing, singing was resumed. It was a strange yet fascinating sound which carried far through the still air of morning. Watching the birds one could see their puffed out, distended throats and chests vibrating, and now and again their bills opened and closed. I tried to count them, but it was difficult to see all round. There were certainly eight cocks and I think there were two more out of sight, but when I first visited this lek nearly 20 years ago a score or more of birds were regular attendants. And this is in a district where black game are said to be holding their own, whereas in most parts of the British Isles it is admitted that they are steadily diminishing.

Seemingly the black grouse, so far as the British Isles are concerned, is a declining, I almost wrote a doomed, bird. Its ranks have been steadily growing less for a number of years and it has vanished from many districts where it formerly flourished. The cause of its decline is difficult to discover (disease, animosity of foresters, increase of foxes are among the factors mentioned), but, as with the landrail, it is difficult to put one's finger on any definite reason. Possibly there is some deep-seated factor, not immediately apparent, such as that which causes the waxing and waning of rodent populations, at work to reduce black game. If so, let us hope we shall soon see the pendulum swing back and this handsome grouse once more on the increase.



2.—A SITTER-OUT SURVEYS THE DANCE. (Right) 3.—THE WHITE UNDER-TAIL COVERTS OF A DISPLAYING BLACKCOCK STAND OUT LIKE A LARGE WHITE POWDER-PUFF AGAINST THE BLACKNESS OF THE REST OF ITS PLUMAGE





4.—THE "FILM STAR" WATCHES HIS NEIGHBOURS SETTING TO PARTNERS AND (right) 5.—TURNS HIS BACK ON ONE OF THEM, REVEALING THE CONSPICUOUS SMALL WHITE SPOT ON HIS SHOULDER

The blackcock attending the lek at which my friend and I were keeping watch were, at all events, still a goodly company and their voices seemed to fill the still morning air to the exclusion of other sounds. The crowing of a cock pheasant was hardly noticed in the medley of bubbling and cooing and even the bark of first one roe deer and then another somewhere in the adjoining forest passed almost unheeded.

By now the light was fairly strong, not good enough for colour photography but of sufficient strength to enable one to obtain a black-and-white record of the scene, and I brought my ciné camera to bear on that part of the green where trampled grass and a few scattered feathers told of many goings on. A particularly handsome blackcock ran hurriedly to this spot, turned with spread tail and drooping wings and bowed directly at the hide, when the small white spot on either shoulder became not only apparent but very noticeable, the two spots having the appearance of glittering, glaring eyes. This cock was dubbed the film star. He seemed to want to have his photograph taken and pranced and postured right in front of the camera.

The rosy tints of dawn had already faded from the sky, which was now a tender grey-blue against which the pine trees raised their spires like the sharp teeth of a long dark saw, and the shadows were no longer impenetrable mysteries. Not only was the film star strutting before the tent fully visible in all his beauty, but so were the rest of the participants in the dance. Ten was certainly the number. They were scattered over the sward and it was obvious that each bird had his station. Here he stood, sang and displayed, until he turned towards a neighbour, when the two of them ran towards each other and set to partners (Fig. 4).

For a minute or two the couple faced each other, necks extended, wings dragging the ground and quivering with excitement. Suddenly they flew up into the air, like gamecocks clashing, dropped to the ground and ran back to their respective stands. It was a harmless business and not even a feather flew. Sometimes they ran and met each other, faced each other for a brief while and then returned to their respective positions without any actual encounter.

All this time the bubbling and cooing continued unabated, but now it changed to a sharp hissing cry, not unlike that made by soda water issuing from a siphon, and the members of the lek all simultaneously leapt aloft, some jumping quite high in the air, only to drop to the ground and hastily resume their positions and their bubbling.

Although every blackcock was obviously in a highly emotional state, it was nothing to the frenzy that suddenly swept the gathering and set

every cock quivering with ecstasy—a grey hen had arrived.

Ornithologists differ as to the biological significance of the blackcocks' dance. The most generally accepted idea is that the communal play acts as a safety valve for the pent-up energy and overflowing spirits of the males in the early part of the breeding season, and at the same time gives the females a chance of not only finding the cocks but choosing the most virile and energetic ones.

From what I could see the grey hen got no time to look at would-be suitors. Cocks rushed about as if gone crazy and prostrated themselves before her. They jostled her in trying to drive one another off. Two fairly lost their heads and tempers and went for each other in a way that did make the feathers fly, and a very wide-awake gentleman just ran after her and grabbed her. Whether coition actually took place was uncertain but I think so. At any rate there was a fine rough-and-tumble with the male holding on to the female's neck feathers.

At no time did I see more than three grey hens on the green together, but by this time, the second week in May, the hens should have been laying, if not sitting. Once the hens are all incubating the fervour dies out of the morning gatherings of their lords, and, finally the affair peters out, the cocks dispersing to moult and recuperate. But when the latter are once more their old spruce selves, in the fine days of early autumn, their joy in dancing reasserts itself and the morning gatherings are resumed. That the blackcocks' dance is purely a breeding ceremonial is belied by these autumn gatherings, even if they lack the full vim and emotional frenzy of the spring-time affairs. It seems obvious that the rites and displaying give the performers great pleasure and they enjoy the dance at any time of year.

The chill days of winter daunt the ardour of the participants, but the earliest hint of coming spring finds them performing with full vigour, flying straight from their roosting-places in the

fir trees to sing and posture, dance and display, while there is yet hardly light enough on the green for the birds to see their neighbours.

A road ran near the lek at which my friend and I kept watch, but it was little frequented in the early part of the morning, and the party went forward undisturbed for nearly two hours. The birds seemed inexhaustible. They pranced, they ran at one another, they set to partners, they skirmished, they ran back to their respective stations and they ignored not only the barking of the roe deer in the near-by forest but stately, long-billed curlew strolling across the arena. They were wholly engrossed with themselves and their doings. As for the hide and its occupants, they were perfectly oblivious of it. They paid no heed to the purring of a ciné camera or the clicking of the focal-plane shutter of a still camera. They did not even cast a glance at the camera lenses protruding from a hole in the side of the shelter and being turned and twisted this way and that. All they did was to run about, strut, bubble and fly up suddenly like so many jacks-in-the-box.

Yet for all their preoccupation the blackcock were on the alert. When it was nearly seven o'clock, a man went down the road on a bicycle and with a whirl of wings all the birds were gone. They only flew off to some tall pines near at hand, however, and in a few minutes back they came, but the spell seemed broken and they stood listlessly with closed wings as if wondering what to do next. A lorry came down the road and this settled it; again they took wing, this time departing for good, or at any rate until late afternoon, when perhaps some of them would return for an evening session.

Although the morning gathering at the lek is the important one, when every male attends, when long inherited custom ordains that he shall put in quite two hours posturing, playing and displaying, there is also the afternoon performance for such as feel like a second dance in the 24 hours. However, the latter event is but a lukewarm affair by comparison with the

joyous dance in the dawn, when the coming sun dyes the sky with crimson glory and a chilly breeze comes down from Cairngorm's snowy summit to rustle through the grass, heather, bilberry and pine trees.

We left the hide, boarded the car and prepared to return for breakfast, but the morning's adventures were by no means over. As we proceeded along the twisting road between the pine trees a lady brought us to a halt (Fig. 6). She was stout, she was self-important and she looked exactly like Queen Victoria. She walked up the middle of the track and we admired her beautifully mottled plumage before she at last spread her wide wings and allowed us to proceed, but she left me with a snapshot of that usually shy, wary and elusive fowl, the blackcock's large cousin, the capercaillie.



6.—A HEN CAPERCAILLIE WALKS SEDATELY UP THE ROAD IN FRONT OF THE CAR

## A NORTH-WEST FRONTIER SHOOT—II

## DUCK IN A SWAT VALLEY

By SIR RALPH GRIFFITH

A DUCK shoot had been arranged for the second morning of our visit to the Wali of Swat, on the North-West Frontier Province of India. We set off after an early breakfast for the Wali's famous *jheel* (Fig 3), which consisted of some hundreds of acres of flooded rice fields in the alluvial plain through which the rapid Swat River thrust its inconstant course.

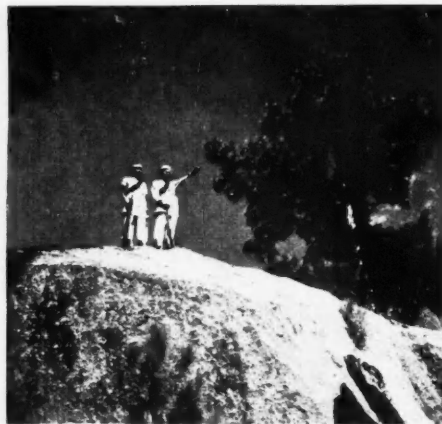
Great are the preparations made by the Wali for these famous shoots at Udigram, for the comfort of his guests and to ensure good sport. The area is commanded by a network of large, comfortable butts built up with rice straw upon raised platforms of earth. For some miles up- and down-stream tribesmen are turned out to keep the duck on the move and prevent them from settling for the day on distant reaches after the shooting has started. The very idea of any sort of *shikar* is a potent lure to any Pathan, and the keen and sustained interest of beaters and all others, howsoever they may be engaged, adds greatly to the enjoyment of a shoot with them.

The guns were soon in their butts, each with a well-furnished luncheon basket and accompanied by an attendant to collect the bag, a duty involving not only much paddling in the flooded rice fields but pursuit of winged birds across deep irrigation channels too wide to be crossed by jumping. The gun occupying the farthest butt—and therefore the last to get into position—fired the opening shot and its echoes were instantly smothered by the roar of wings as many thousands of birds rose at the sound of the discharge. The drumming racket of duck rising in myriads has a joy in it that never palls, swelling into a harmony of many parts that rises rapidly to a climax and then fades gradually as the birds mount and scatter. The first brief, furious *feu de joie* was soon spent, but for the next couple of hours the duck continued to come over, singly or in small groups, in sufficient numbers to sustain interest and keep the guns alert and barrels warm.

By mid-day most of the duck had gone; only an occasional shot was heard and soon an interval was announced by bugle call. An hour's silence, during which lunch was eaten, brought the birds back to the *jheel* in slowly increasing numbers. The two soldierly-looking young attendants who had watched my shooting during the morning with frankly-outspoken praise and criticism, as circumstance had required, accepted a handful of apples and sat down for such fitful talk as might arise.

This pleasant period of relaxation after the morning's fusillade offered much to engage one's interest. Sitting with my companions outside the butt on trusses of straw under a cloudless

sky, the warmth of the sun inducing a tendency to nod, I found myself watching the returning duck and trying for the hundredth time to pronounce upon the relative flight-speeds of mallard and teal, and coming down pretty decisively, as usual, on the side of the teal. The flight of the mallard is admittedly deceptive, by reason of its appearance of effortless ease; that of the teal, perhaps, misleadingly bustling and flashy. It may well be that in sustained, routine flights—as on migration, or changing of feeding-grounds—the larger bird has the smaller beaten. But, as it seems to me, you have only to watch the large flocks of mallard and teal circling a *jheel* together for hours at a time, with the guns popping below to keep them lively, in order to remove the last vestige of doubt. For sheer speed when really put to it the teal can leave the mallard standing.



2.—PICKETS ON THE ROAD TO SAI DU

The afternoon's shoot did not last very long. After a highly satisfactory rise to the first few shots the birds, stirred up for the second time in the day, refused to linger and made off to seek new sanctuaries, some flocks moving up-, some down-stream, but most making off south-eastwards over the hills for the Indus, twenty miles away. Soon only an occasional shot broke the silence; the "cease fire" was sounded and the guns made their way back to the camp for tea.



1.—THE BEATERS

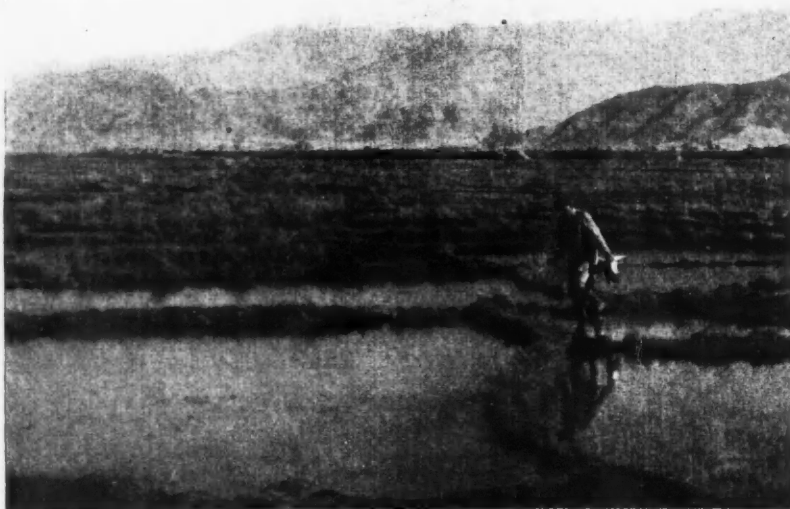
The day's bag was something over six hundred duck, of which about 10 per cent. were teal, the remainder being mallard and gadwall with a sprinkling of pochard and pintail. The thousand mark has, I believe, on one or two occasions been reached at Udigram; but recent bags have been smaller and there is a local theory that the Russians are using the eggs of wild-fowl in very large numbers in the manufacture of photographic film!

An incident that occurred in the course of the morning has remained vividly in my memory. A friend in a neighbouring butt sent his Labrador retriever across the flooded fields to retrieve a duck which, badly winged, had flown on and, passing almost within gunshot of me, come down heavily in the water a couple of hundred yards farther on. As the dog approached my butt I "dropped" a mallard. It fell a considerable distance off his line of advance, but the dog immediately switched to the new objective, picked up the mallard and brought it to me and then, having completed this charming act of politeness, resumed his original line, gathered the wounded bird and carried it back—nearly a quarter of a mile—to his master.

A little later, my attention was drawn by frenzied shouting on the distant edge of the *jheel* and I saw a mass of tribesmen rushing from all directions to converge on a common objective around which they then seemed to be milling wildly as though in the throes of a battle. Knowing that many must be carrying arms and not forgetting that the nature of the beast is above all things to be "trigger-happy," I awaited in some suspense the shot that would start the battle that now seemed inevitable. Happily it turned out that the watching opportunists were merely indulging in a little sport on their own account. Later, when we assembled for tea a large crowd of Swatis proudly dragged forth the fruits of their chase—a half-grown orial which had suddenly appeared out of the *jheel* and had given them an exciting hunt before capture. How this wild and "very mountainous goat" (I quote the local schoolmaster) came to find itself in so strange an environment it is impossible to say. He bounded off joyously for his natural element, so to speak, when set free with his nose pointed to the hills. The tribesmen produced also the bedraggled body of a jackal which had been driven off the rice fields and clubbed to death.

Another retriever—the Wali's—working half a mile away across the *jheel*, gave me much entertainment during the day, at times so distracting attention from the work in hand that I failed of my duty towards the fighting ducks. A highly-efficient finder and gatherer and obviously enjoying his work just as much as would any other right-minded retriever, he galumphed and shambled heavily about the *jheel* in manner reminiscent rather of the dinosaur than of the common, necessary retriever. Like Behemoth, I thought, "he moveth his tail like a cedar and his bones are as strong pieces of brass"—a veritable mammoth floundering about the swamp, he seemed to "make the deep to boil as a pot." True, he was only a retriever gathering ducks at his master's behest; but he happened also to be a great dane, and an exceptionally large specimen of the breed.

The previous article on this subject appeared in COUNTRY LIFE of October 10.



3.—THE WALI'S FAMOUS JHEEL CONSISTED OF SOME HUNDREDS OF ACRES OF FLOODED RICE FIELDS



# PLAN FOR A NEW TOWN

MR. G. A. JELlicoe's PROPOSALS FOR HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

**H**EMEL HEMPSTEAD, Hertfordshire, is the first of the proposed satellite towns for which the preliminary plan has been published. It has been prepared by Mr. G. A. Jellicoe in the capacity of Town-planning Consultant to the Hemel Hempstead Development Corporation. A scale model with plans, photographs and drawings has been exhibited in the Town Hall at Hemel Hempstead, where residents have had the opportunity of studying and criticising their new town. The plan will doubtless undergo modifications as circumstances may arise, and, in our straitened economic situation, the execution of the building programme is likely to be very seriously delayed. But at least a framework for a new town exists, and, as this is the first of the bunch, the proposals embodied in Mr. Jellicoe's report deserve careful scrutiny.

The existing town has a population of 21,120. It is proposed to increase this figure to 60,000, aiming at a "balanced population" as between different occupations and income groups. Taking England and Wales as a whole, Mr. Jellicoe finds that in 1931 the percentage of those employed in manufacturing industries was 18.5 per cent. At Hemel Hempstead the percentage is as high as 25.6. He proposes to allow for only a limited expansion of manufacture and to redress the balance by increasing the numbers engaged in service industries from the present low figure of 14 per cent. to the average for England and Wales, viz., 23.3 per cent. The emphasis is, therefore, on commercial and residential development rather than on industry. The total area covered by the plan is about 6,350 acres. Approximately 1,800 acres will be kept as open space; the rest will be developed, roughly half the area being allocated to residential use.

Hemel Hempstead up to 1800 was a small market town, strung along the eastern slope of the Valley of the Gade, a chalk stream which joins the River Bulbourne about a mile south of the old part of the town. The Bulbourne Valley is better known as that through which the Grand Junction Canal makes its way, accompanied by the L.M.S. main line to Rugby and A.41 (the London-Tring-Birmingham road). It is seen forming an arc on the left-hand side of Fig. 1. The opening of the Canal in 1804 brought



1.—MODEL OF THE PROPOSED NEW TOWN OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

The top of the photograph is approximately N.N.W. The central lay-out of gardens and public buildings follows the valley of the Gade to its junction with the Bulbourne Valley, forming the arc at the bottom left. Only one of the seven residential areas is laid out on the model, the others appearing as blank spaces



2.—THE CENTRAL AREA LOOKING SOUTH-EAST

The garden belt is seen running across the picture from the lake in the left foreground with Marlowes, the principal shopping street on the far side. Left of the lake are the church and existing High Street. The civic centre, with tower, extends across the valley at the end of the lake

industry in the form of paper mills and iron-works to the south and south-east of the town. Boxmoor, where the main line station is, and Apsley both developed in consequence, and in course of time became linked to Hemel Hempstead, which now not only fills the Valley of the Gade, but sprawls over the hillsides to east and west. The making of paper remains the principal industry, but watercress-growing in the river valleys is another important enterprise of long standing.

Thanks to valuable common rights in the Bulbourne Valley, there exists a large open space known as the Moor, extending along the river past its junction with the Gade and parallel to the railway. It is proposed to retain this. In the Gade Valley itself, to the west of the old High Street and the fine Norman church, there is a beautiful area of parkland with meadows and trees. Part of this, under the new plan, would become an artificial lake with the civic centre at its southern end. The lake is seen as the dark area in the left foreground of Fig. 2, where we are looking south-eastward. The church and High Street here are visible to the left of the lake.

The High Street, with its inns and pleasant fronts of Georgian brick, retains considerable charm and it is proposed to preserve most of it as "an academic or professional quarter." The commercial centre of the town will be shifted southward and Marlowes, which is the southern extension of the High Street and now a street of no distinction, will be developed as the principal shopping thoroughfare, although with buildings confined to the east side. The west side will be open to the central belt of gardens, interspersed

with public buildings, which is visualised as occupying the valley floor running south from a position a little south-west of the church to the point where the Gade joins the Bulbourne.

The civic centre at the north end of the central garden belt would lie across the valley east-and-west. Mr. Jellicoe has in mind the château of Chenonceaux in the Loire Valley, a building stretching across a dam at the end of a lake. Below it extend the gardens divided into seven compartments, the river crossing and re-crossing in an artificial channel turning a succession of right-angled bends. At intervals along the east side of the garden belt and facing Marlowes a series of public buildings are disposed—a library, art gallery, restaurant and repertory theatre; and at the south end a pavilion, containing a theatre and concert hall, is set in a corresponding position to the civic centre with a round pond on its south side. At either end of the gardens provision is made for car parks "waiting to become helicopter parks." The garden treatment is formal; some will think it too formal and would prefer to see the river running in a natural course through the gardens.

The residential areas are divided into seven "neighbourhoods" disposed on the hills around the central valley. One reason for this arrangement is that the valley-floods at certain times

of the year are liable to act as fog-pockets. Each neighbourhood has its own church, community centre, shops, playing-fields and allotments, and will thus be to a large extent self-contained. In the model (Fig. 1) only one of the residential areas is shown laid out; the others are left blank. A variety of architectural treatment is suggested, representative of all schools of thought. Definite proposals are made for a loose lay-out of terrace buildings along the slopes of the hills east and west of the central area, and at one or two points high blocks of flats are visualised. In fact, the best is to be made of all architectural worlds.

As it is not proposed to expand the industrial population by more than 5,000 to 6,000, the area allotted to new industries is only a small proportion of the whole. The main industrial area is in the Bulbourne Valley to the south-east, where the paper mills are. It is suggested that new industries should be sited near the north-east boundary (right of Fig. 1), where there are already the estate of Messrs. Brocks, the firework manufacturers, and some clay workings.

Communications do not present any major problems. Unlike Crawley, Hemel Hempstead is not intersected by a trunk road, but lies off A.41 to the north. The whole new town area

will be encircled by a perimeter road serving as a by-pass and industrial route. Certain alterations to existing roads are suggested, the most important being the by-passing of the old High Street by a new road running parallel to it down the valley at a lower level and to the west of the church. It is proposed that the branch railway line to Harpenden, now little used, should be closed. The provision of water is not expected to be difficult. It will entail the construction of a new pumping plant, reservoir and two water towers, one east and one west of the central area.

Taken as a whole, the plan appears both practical and logical. It is governed by the existing topography, preserves all the principal parks and open spaces and is designed in such a way that it can be carried out in stages with a minimum of dislocation to the life of the community. Development will take place, as a general rule, from the centre outwards, leaving the surrounding farms as long as possible as workable units. A period of ten or fifteen years is suggested for the realisation of the greater part of the plan, but the time-table is, and doubtless will have to remain, elastic. The ambitious nature of the scheme for the central area will obviously depend, for its fulfilment, on a much brighter economic and financial outlook than the present one.

## CORRESPONDENCE

### SCARCITY OF WASPS

SIR,—With reference to Major Jarvis's recent remarks about the scarcity of wasps in the south of Hampshire, in the north-eastern corner of the county they have certainly been exceedingly rare this year.

In most counties, in fact, wasps have apparently been scarce this season. On the other hand they are said to have been very numerous in parts of Norfolk and Suffolk. Failing differing local conditions, how can one account for this odd state of affairs?

PETER MICHAEL, 56, Crammore Lane, Aldershot, Hampshire.

### BEE SWARM IN A FERRET'S HUTCH

From the Hon. Mrs. Erskine. SIR,—This summer a cast from one of my hives settled in the sleeping compartment of a ferret's hutch on the farm. They hung on the roof inside



A TEAM OF HORSES WEARING HARNESS BELLS. (Left) A CASE OF BELLS FIXED TO THE HAMES. (Right) A PACK-HORSE COLLAR WITH BELLS ATTACHED

such an unattractive spot for swarming?—CHRISTINA ERSKINE, *Burningfold Manor, Dunsfold, Surrey.*

### BLACKBIRD EATING DRAGON-FLY

SIR,—One day recently the gardener called me into a green house to look at a blackbird that was trying to catch a large dragon-fly. By the time I arrived the bird had caught and subdued it and was busy eating it. Surely it is most unusual for a blackbird to attack a dragon-fly.—A. FORTESCUE (Mrs.), *Foscote, Banbury, Oxfordshire.*

We had never before heard of a blackbird attacking a dragon-fly, but it has been known to kill slow-worms and to capture a half-to-three-parts-grown mouse.—ED.]

### HOW HARNESS BELLS WERE FIXED

SIR,—May I comment on Mr. James Burford's letter in your issue of September 19 about the fixing of cases of harness bells?

In *COUNTRY LIFE* of April 17, 1926, appeared a photograph, reproduced herewith, of a wagon horse with a bell-case fixed to the hames or collar

of the harness. A similar photograph in number 278 (1913) of *The Selborne Magazine* shows part of the Queen Victoria Diamond Jubilee procession at Reading, Berkshire, with a wagon drawn by two horses having cases attached to their collars. The article, which the latter picture illustrates, was written by William Lawrence, a learned authority on the subject, and he definitely stated that "the cranked iron supports of the cases were fixed in eyelets in the hames or collars of the harness."

It would be enlightening to know Mr. Burford's authority for his sketch of a case of these bells attached to a pack-horse saddle. The pack-horse saddles in the Bankfield Museum, Halifax, and the Tolson Museum, Huddersfield, bear no signs of having had bell-cases attached to them. Nor are they shown on the pack-horses figured in Walker's *Yorkshire Costumes*.

In the Bankfield Museum there is an authentic pack-horse collar bearing four bells (there were formerly five). Three of the bells were made by Robert Wells, of Aldbourne, Wiltshire; the fourth is marked "G. T. Wigan." The bells are fixed to a leather strap

about 3 ft. 6 ins. long and 5 ins. broad, as shown in my other illustration, and this was placed round the neck of the leader of the gang of pack-horses.

Mr. W. B. Crump mentioned this example in a letter published in *COUNTRY LIFE* of April 3, 1926. A contemporary delineation of a pack-horse wearing such a collar appears in Loggan's *Oxonia Illustrata* of 1674.—L. R. A. GROVE, Curator, Bankfield Museum, Halifax, Yorkshire.

[As an addendum to our correspondent's illustrations we reproduce a photograph of a team of horses wearing harness bells at an agricultural show at Eastbourne in 1939.—ED.]

### A ROGUE BADGER

From the Earl of Hardwicke.

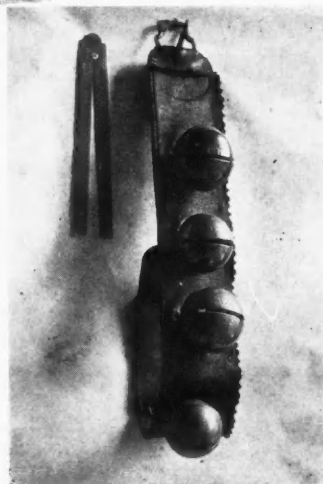
SIR,—While I was reading, with great interest, Mr. Wentworth Day's recent article on the sociability of the badger,



and when one of the men went to feed the ferret, he found it asleep and quite unmoved at having its quarters packed with bees.

The hutch is very small and contains only the one ferret, which was removed before the cast was taken. Perhaps bees forget the reputation they have for being fastidious about smells when swarming is in progress.

Has anyone known bees select



my bailiff appeared with the news that one of these "lovable pets" had broken into one of the chicken arks and made a clean sweep of eleven blood-tested pedigree Rhode Island laying pullets.

During the last two months some 48 hens have been removed, plus five of my children's pet bantams. A counter-offensive has been in progress



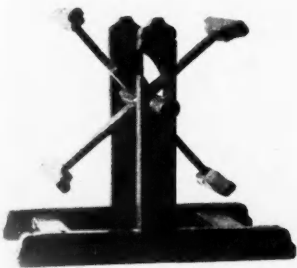
for some time, which has included trapping and blocking the holes with sand and broken glass and the dynamiting of the sett by a detachment of Royal Engineers, without any apparent effect.

Although I am in full agreement with Mr. Wentworth Day's appreciation of the intelligence and ingenuity of these savage rodents, I am of the opinion, from a farming point of view, that they are better kept under severe control, and that where necessary should be treated as pests by the W.A.C.s and exterminated by the most humane means possible.—**HARDWICKE, Rockley Manor, Marlborough, Wiltshire.**

[Rogues occur in all species, including man, and should be dealt with as they deserve. Occasional badgers come under this heading, but it is unfortunate when the sins of guilty individuals bring trouble on their innocent fellows. The majority of badgers are harmless.—**ED.**]

### FOR WINDING WOOL

SIR,—A wool-winder of early form has lately been added to the collection of objects brought together at Sulgrave



**AN OLD ENGLISH WOOL-WINDER OR WRAP WHEEL AT SULGRAVE MANOR**

*See letter: For Winding Wool*

Manor, Northamptonshire, to illustrate sheep farming, wool working and the wool trade, from which the fortunes of the Washingtons of Sulgrave were derived.

The winding of woollen yarn into hanks by means of the wool-winder or wrap wheel was the last of the processes of preparing wool for domestic use. This winder, of which I send you a photograph, is of oak and ash, is 18 inches high and was designed to stand upon a table.

Being country-made and of traditional shape, it cannot be accurately dated, but may be taken as representative of the type of instrument that would have been used at Sulgrave during the hundred and twenty years' ownership of the Manor by the Washington family in the 16th and



**A GIANT COW PARSNIP (*Heracleum Mantegazzianum*) GROWING NEAR GOSPORT, HAMPSHIRE**

*See letter: An Outsize Plant*

17th centuries.—**H. CLIFFORD SMITH, 25, Campden Grove, W.8.**

### AN OUTSIZE PLANT

SIR,—With reference to your correspondence about the giant cow parsnip (*Heracleum Mantegazzianum*), you may care to see the enclosed photograph of a specimen of this plant that appeared last year near Fort Blockhouse, Gosport, Hampshire. The size of the plant can be estimated from the 5 ft. 3 ins. tall spectator; the stem was about 4 ins. diameter at the base. The plant was destroyed by vandals before the seeds ripened and has not reappeared.—**H. DUFFIN, Cdr. (E) R.N., Titchfield Common, Hampshire.**

### VARNISH ON OLD FURNITURE

SIR,—As it is obvious that much care is taken with your interesting feature *Collectors' Questions*, I read with some misgiving the advice tendered on September 26 to a correspondent requesting a recipe for removing varnish from some chairs.

The method indicated, by virtue of the highly caustic properties of the materials suggested, will certainly remove the varnish, but the resultant damage done to old furniture by these drastic means will irreparably destroy any true patina or antique effect which may exist below the varnish. The wire brush, however gently used, can only assist in increasing the damage by scoring the surface of the wood, and its use for this purpose should be discouraged.

The admixture of one part turpentine to eight parts linseed oil will make no appreciable difference in actual practice, and the application of oil to the surface after the suggested treatment will only produce an unpleasant sticky finish and an equally displeasing greenish or ginger colour.

In any case the various woods used in making old furniture will react differently to this volatile ill-treatment with hot alkalis and attempts to neutralise the after effects with counters in acid form will be only a temporary palliative. What is very important to remember is that the true antique effect is not a dull sheen but a bright translucent hard polish, likened to a metallic lustre, the product of time and inimitable.

Very old varnish should not be removed by the inexperienced, for this may be the original application. Contrary opinion is responsible for the destruction during the last fifty years of much interesting yeoman furniture, which is now recognisable only by the very diligent student.—**S. W. WOLSEY, 71, Buckingham Gate, London, S.W.1.**

[The question and answer printed in our issue of September 26 concerned the removal of a high-gloss varnish from some spindle-back chairs. The recipe given was one recommended and used by renovators to the antique trade. It was not suggested that the amateur should lightly embark on experiments with valuable old furniture, and for fear of misunderstanding we take this opportunity of emphasising that the removal of varnish from antique pieces should be entrusted only to experienced hands.—**ED.**]

### A BARREL ORGAN IN CHURCH

SIR,—One would hardly expect the musical accompaniment of a church service to be provided by an organ-grinder, complete with monkey, but while looking round Urswick Church, near Ulverston, Lancashire, the oldest in Furness, I found carved on the choir stalls the representation of an organ-grinder and his monkey shown in the enclosed photograph. It is one of a series of 16 carvings of musical instruments that have provided music in the church and is the work of a Mr. Miller, of Chipping Campden.—**JOHN CROWE, c/o Murley Moss Farm, Kendal, Westmorland.**

### WHITE FALLOW DEER

SIR,—Having read with great interest Mr. Kenneth Whitehead's recent article *The Horned Game of Great Britain*, in which he mentions that white fallow buck are not uncommon, I thought you might like to publish the enclosed photograph of a white fallow buck taken in Bradgate Park, Leicestershire, a few years ago.

I believe Bradgate Park has been a deer park for seven hundred years or so and that in addition to the herd of fallow deer it harbours a herd of red deer, among which are some very fine heads. During the last ten or twelve years fresh blood has been introduced by importations from the famous Warnham herd.—**D. ALDRIDGE, Victoria Cottage, Woodhouse Eaves, Loughborough, Leicestershire.**



**A WHITE FALLOW BUCK IN A LEICESTERSHIRE PARK**

*See letter: White Fallow Deer*

### BUTTERFLY INVASION OF SCOTLAND

SIR,—In a recent number of *COUNTRY LIFE* a correspondent referred to the scarcity of Red Admiral butterflies in the Quantocks, and I thought you might be interested to know that they were very plentiful here in Kirkcudbrightshire in mid-September.

We have had a real plague of the caterpillar of the Large White butterfly, which caused havoc among my brussels sprouts and winter greens. I never remember seeing so many of them. The more familiar green caterpillar of the Small White is also numerous.

Birds do not appear to take any interest in either of these caterpillars. Certainly, I have never seen any taken though I spend most of my time in the garden. It would be interesting to know what has caused such an abundance of them this year. Presumably the hard winter killed off a large number of their natural enemies, whatever these might be.—**J. F. MOORE (Mrs.), King's Grange, Castle-Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire.**

### AND DORSET

*From Lord Methuen.*

SIR,—In your comment on Mr. Ian C. Smith's letter in your issue of September 26 about Clouded Yellows, you mention that these butterflies were numerous in Dorset early last month. In a meadow near the swannery at Abbotsbury, in mid-September, they outnumbered the Small White by 10 to 1, and I had no difficulty in collect-



**CARVING OF AN ORGAN-GRINDER AND HIS MONKEY IN A LANCASHIRE CHURCH**

*See letter: A Barrel Organ in Church*

ing a few of the rare white female form. At this spot there were hardly fewer than 10 of the *Colias* in sight, besides Coppers, and here and there a Painted Lady.

On the way home we visited Brympton, Somerset, where, in a flower garden under a fairly large apple tree, much of the fruit of which was on the ground, we saw about 100 Red Admirals. Their brilliant colour, mixed with that of the russet apples, with here and there a Comma, gave the most brilliant display we had ever seen of its kind in the afternoon sun.

The Red Admirals, having drunk deep of the apple juice, flopped and rolled about, apparently as drunk as ticks—behaviour that contrasted sharply with the nervous but precise flight of the numerous Humming-bird Hawk moths that showed a marked

predilection for the fragrant flowers of a well-grown *Clerodendron trichotomum* growing near by.—METHUEN, *Corsham Court, Corsham, Wiltshire.*

#### MIGRATION AGAINST WIND?

SIR,—With reference to the large immigration of butterflies from the Continent during August, in view of the persistent north-east and northerly winds that blew over South-eastern and Southern England during most of that month, one wonders by what means these insects contrived to penetrate so far inland. The diurnal sea breeze might carry them 10 miles or so inland, but no farther.

To quote from the Monthly Supplement of the Daily Weather Report for August: "From the 10th



**A PROBLEM HORSE AT BARNET FAIR**

*See letter: Not in the Stud Book*

onwards the general wind in the south-east (of the British Isles) was continually from the north-east quadrant. Such a long spell of north-east wind is believed to be unprecedented in the summer." It is possible that the butterflies might have been transported in the wind circulation of the persistent anticyclone that covered the country during August, in which case they would have been eventually carried north or north-east on the northern perimeter.

Vertical wind currents may provide another clue to the problem. I have found butterflies on glaciers at 19,000 ft., transported there by convective clouds; indeed, the cumulus type cloud is a very effective distributive agent of insects, seeds, etc., of all types.

In theory the strength and persistency of southerly air currents should determine the most northerly limits to which butterflies spread during a season. I am assuming that butterflies are incapable of flying against moderate wind.—P. C. SPINK, *Thornton Hall, Uxbridge, Lincolnshire.*

The abundance this year of caterpillars of the Cabbage White butterfly may in some measure have been due to the scarcity of wasps, upon which a correspondent comments on page 786.

Further records of Clouded Yellows come from Herefordshire (first week in June and then from July 16 onwards) and from Co. Wicklow. Examples of the pale variety *Helice* were reported from Gloucestershire and Hereford.—ED.

#### VILLAGE SIGNS

SIR,—Apropos of the recent correspondence in *COUNTRY LIFE* about village signs, I thought you might be interested to see the enclosed photographs of two such signs in East Anglia, which has some of the best designs in the country.

That at Wolferton is on the Royal estate at Sandringham, Norfolk, directly outside the railway station, and was erected in 1912 at the

instigation of the late King George V. It illustrates the old Norse legend in which Tyr saves the village from the great grey wolf (Fenrir).

The other photograph depicts the sign at Herongate, near Braintree, Essex, and is simply a pun on the name of the village. This sign is unique in that it is composed of painted and glazed tiles, while that at Wolferton conforms to convention in being a wood carving.—P. H. LOVELL, 28, *Albury Drive, Pinner, Middlesex.*

#### NOT IN THE STUD BOOK

SIR,—Perhaps some of your readers can tell me what the horse shown in the accompanying photograph is. It is a well-made animal, with good breeding behind it, white, with splashes and spots of a bright reddish liver-chestnut—more spots than appear in the photograph, the hindquarters being thickly covered with them.

I have seen accounts of the Canadian Pintos, and the spotted horses, but this one combines the two—spots and splashes.

The horse was attracting most of the attention at Barnet Fair.—M. G. S. BEST, 10a *Cresswell Place, London, S.W.10.*

[It would be interesting to know how this horse was bred. So far as one can judge from the photograph it appears to be an even admixture of the Pinto and the Appaloosa.—ED.]

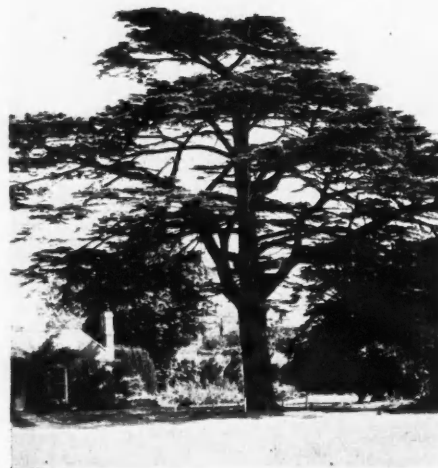
#### BUMBLEDOM AND A TREE

SIR,—The enclosed photograph is of a cedar in the grounds of the Manor House, Thames Ditton, Surrey, which was recently in the news for an amusing reason.

The owner was considering whether or no to fell the tree. The local Bumbles, hearing of the possible felling, immediately alleged that the tree was 700 years old, had been there in King John's reign, was therefore an object of historic interest, and must not be felled. But the relevant Ministry, when the matter was brought before them, refused to confirm this piece of officiousness; so the owner was left free to do whatever she might eventually decide.

The most entertaining part of the tale is, however, that there exists no known record of any cedar in England until 1640 or later. It is most unlikely that Queen Elizabeth, much less King John, ever saw a cedar.

In the course of correspondence some two years ago about which is England's oldest cedar, I believe 1646 (or possibly 1640) was the earliest date advanced for the introduction of the Cedar of Lebanon (the first species to come) into this country. During



**A CEDAR IN THE GROUNDS OF THE MANOR HOUSE AT THAMES DITTON, SURREY**

*See letter: Bumbledom and a Tree*

the war certain cedars damaged by bombs were "said to be mentioned in the Domesday Book." This curious distinction is usually attributed to oaks, but in fact no individual tree of any kind is mentioned in the Domesday survey.—J. D. U. W., *Berkshire.*

#### HUMMING-BIRD MOTH IN YORKSHIRE

SIR,—Apropos of your remarks in *COUNTRY LIFE* of September 26 about the abundance of Humming-bird moths this year, for a week towards the end of September one daily spent hours among our geraniums; it showed no interest in any other flower.

We cannot recall having seen this day-time moth here before, and it would be interesting to know if other specimens have been seen in the industrial West Riding or in large towns elsewhere.—LINNIE RICHARDSON, *Spring Head, Northowram, near Halifax, Yorkshire.*

#### ANOTHER CASTLEFORD TEA-POT

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Bickerton's enquiry about Castleford tea-pots in *COUNTRY LIFE* of September 26, I have a tea-pot very similar in shape to the one you illustrated and marked "D. W. & Co." but the square sides at the corners are neither concave nor convex but flat. This tea-pot is

exactly as those described in Chaffer's *Marks and Monograms on Pottery and China*, having "subjects in relief and blue line borders and a hinge of earthenware attached to the lid, through which a metal pin is passed and fastened to the rim."—E. H. M. LUCKOCK, *Sidbrook House, near Taunton, Somerset.*

#### CHELSEA DERBY CHINA

SIR,—May I shed a sidelight on the letter in *Collectors' Question* of September 26 about Chelsea Derby figures?

The late Dr. Bellamy Gardner, the eminent collector of Chelsea porcelain, whose collection was sold at Sothebys in 1941, possessed a document called *The Pocket Ledger of William Duesbury*, and in it were the following entries (with

an error in the first addition) referring to the employment of Mr. Jno Bacon, R.A., as a modeller of Chelsea Derby figures:—

1769. Mr. Jno Bacon, Modeller	
Oct. 5. To draft value	£19.17.6
" 27. To "	£13. 5. 6
1770. Ballance	£11.17.8
	44.17.8

1769. p. Contra	
July 25. By Modell.	5.17.6
Aug. 7. By do	10.16. 6
" 31. By do	18.15.2
Nov. 13. By do	9. 9. 6
	44.17.8

By Dr. Box 2/-

44.19.8

1770. pd. Mr. Jno Bacon, in full	
Jan. 3	£11.17.6
1770. pd. Mr. Bacons Bill	£19.10. 6

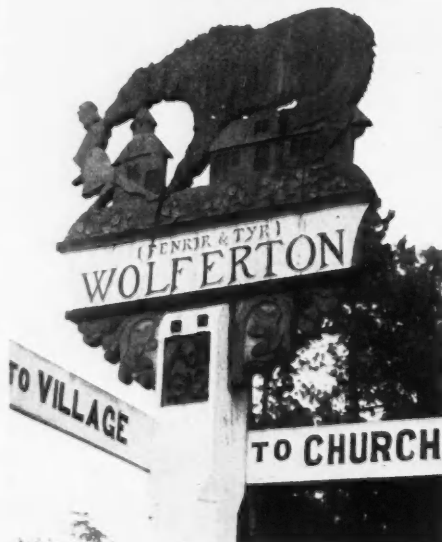
Further evidence of the Chelsea factory having passed into Duesbury's hands in 1769, and not in 1770, as implied in your note of September 26, is as follows:—Henry Duesbury, the architect, great-grandson of William Duesbury, writing in 1862, said:—

"I see by an old book now before me—one of my great-grandfather's—that he paid Bacon, the first sculptor of the day, £75.7.2 in 1769 for models. This is a point worth noting, as showing his determination to have the best that could be got."—JOHN M. BACON, *London, S.W.5.*

#### FOR MAKING OPIUM

SIR,—May I contribute an addendum to Arbiter's remarks about Winslow Hall, Buckinghamshire, in last week's *Estate Market*? It was at Winslow that Dr. John Cowley, who practised there from 1802 until 1856, sponsored the cultivation of the white poppy for the production of opium.

An old history of Buckinghamshire records the experiment thus: "The white poppy was so successfully cultivated at Winslow in 1821 as to produce 6 lb. of opium, worth at least £75, from four acres, and in the next year, 1823, from 11 acres. For this, on both occasions, a prize of 30 guineas was awarded by the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce."—W. G. L., *Hampstead, N.W.3.*



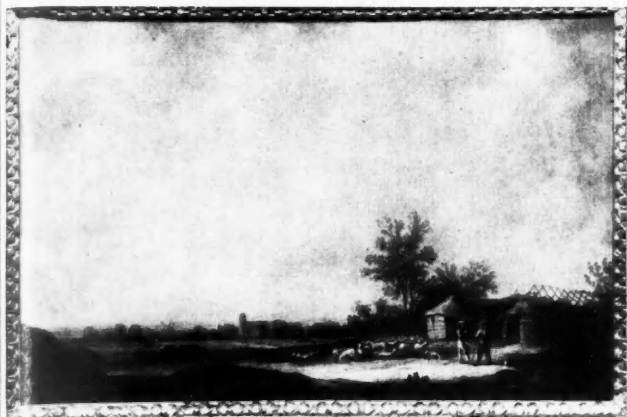
**A NORFOLK AND (right) AN ESSEX VILLAGE SIGN**

*See letter: Village Signs*



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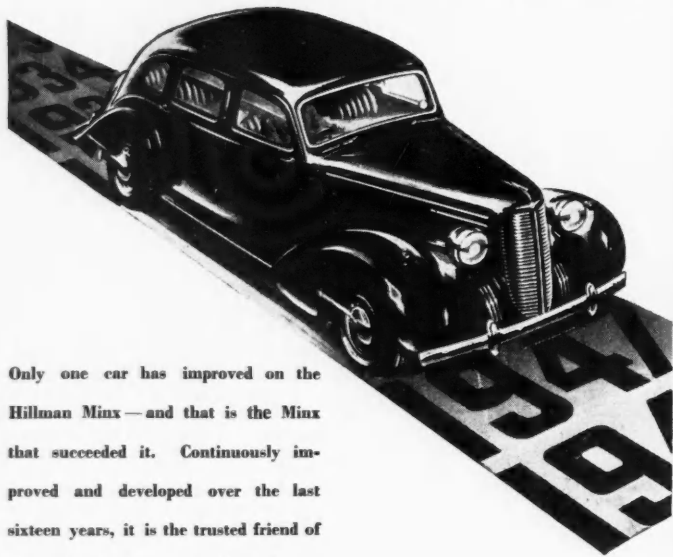
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# THE PROFESSIONAL GAME

A Golf Commentary by  
BERNARD DARWIN

I COULD not go to Birkdale to see the *Daily Telegraph* amateur and professional foursomes. If I had I should no doubt now be trying to draw some comparisons between the amateur and the professional game, but it is dull work writing about something one has only seen through the eyes of others and makes dull reading. So apart from the obvious fact that the experiment was a success, I feel inclined to make only one comment. Foursomes clearly make for desperately close matches. It became almost common form to read that A and B had beaten C and D at the 19th hole, and often the match had to go further still. There were certainly far more of these agonising and terrific endings than in the *News of the World* competition, which I had been watching the week before at St. Anne's. I can only suppose the reason to be that whereas in a single one player may be brilliantly on his game and the other rather off it, so that there is a comparatively run-away victory, in a foursome each has a partner, in the one case to tone down the brilliance and in the other to make up for mistakes. In short there is a compensating quality in foursomes which redresses the balance one way or the other and so tends to good fun and good finishes.

\*\*\*

Now to return to St. Anne's, although I have already written something about it. I had seen very little professional golf this summer, having eschewed the entertainment of the travelling circus and watched only the Open Championship at Hoylake. So it came to me with an interesting freshness; I did not take it all as read, and tried to come to some conclusions about it. What were the points that most impressed me? Well, first of all there was the astonishing steadiness and accuracy of the driving from the tee. There is nothing very penetrating or original in that remark, it may be said, nor indeed is there, and yet it seems to be worth saying. Wandering hither and thither for four days among the couples I cannot remember to have seen more than one tee shot that can be said to have been missed, and in that case I think the club had slipped in the player's hand owing to the pouring rain. One half-top I do recall, but even so the ball went a long way; and of course there were occasional shots a little hooked or cut which ended in, but not far in, the rough.

Generally speaking shot after shot rang out perfectly clean and true, and the ball ended monotonously in the middle of the course and a very long way from the tee. I feel pretty sure that professional driving, aided no doubt by better balls and better clubs, is better and more consistent than it was in my youth. Then one did very occasionally see an eminent person make a definitely bad drive, smothered perhaps or topped or ballooned into the air; unless I have been unlucky, one never sees it now.

\*\*\*

As to the methods by which this wonderful accuracy of hitting is attained, everybody now has what once would have been called a three-quarter swing. Only the flexible James Adams has the old-fashioned long swing, which it gives me a sentimental and nostalgic pleasure to see. Unless the quickness of the hand deceives the eye nobody else at the top of the swing reaches even the horizontal position of the club. Clearly there must be great virtue in this method, if only because there seems less chance of anything going wrong at the top of the back swing. I travelled back from St. Anne's with a professional of the elder school and he, talking of this curtailed swing, said, "I teach it to my pupils though I can't do it myself." Neither is it only the professionals who have this controlled method of driving, for it was noticeable among our Walker Cup players earlier this summer, and their driving was very fine. Only P. B. Lucas, and he was perhaps the most powerful of them all, stood fast in the older ways. If Bobby Jones were now to revisit us swinging as he used to swing in the days of his pride, he would seem to us, I fancy, to have rather a long swing, and, to go farther back, Andrew Kirkaldy, who was once unique in the

shortness of his swing, would to-day seem perfectly normal. When, and it is very seldom, I try to swing a club nowadays, and my arthritic back will not allow me to get it far back, I have at least the meagre satisfaction that in method, if not in result, I am in the fashion.

The iron play struck me as magnificent, and it is there, of course—for that matter it always has been—that the professional as a rule leaves the poor amateur far behind. That punching stroke with the iron is appallingly accurate. St. Anne's is essentially a "tight" course; the bunkers lurk in wait round the greens, unpleasantly close to the hole; and yet ball after ball came plumping down not many yards from the pin, and that from a long way off. I did some of my watching, as I think no shame to say, from the big first-floor window that looks down on to the home green. That home hole used to be a comparatively mild one, but now the tee has gone a long way back, and with any wind against the player the second is a considerable shot. Yet I do not remember seeing anyone get into any of the surrounding bunkers. One felt perfectly sure that the ball would end on the grass, and the only question seemed to be whether its owner would have a putt for three or whether he would have to scratch his head to lay the first putt dead.

And when it was dead, or what the care-free spectator called dead, what happened? What of the putting? On the afternoon of my arrival at St. Anne's I was sitting in that window, and looking down on the lovely velvety green below, and could not help contrasting it with the greens as they had been for the *Daily Mail* tournament in 1946. The deadly leather-jackets had then made a cruel attack on the

links, and those normally beautiful greens had been reduced to bare slippery black mud. It had been possible to miss almost anything, and almost anything had been constantly missed. When I made some congratulatory remark on the blessed transformation one of my companions said, "Yes, the greens are better, but they are no better putters." This, I think, was unjust. It seemed to me that the putting was, on the whole, quite good. On such perfect greens there were bound to be long putts holed, and a good many were holed. What is more important, I did not see so many short ones missed.

Everybody must miss short ones now and again, as long as human nature is what it is. Moreover, professionals are so accurate in all the rest of the game that people are apt to expect an impossibly high standard of accuracy from them on the greens. Making all due allowance for the perfection of the greens on the one hand, and for human fallibility on the other, I say again that I thought the putting at any rate respectably good.

This is not to say that it was as good as that of the best Americans, the players that our Ryder Cup side will presently be encountering. I do not think our men have yet quite attained to that standard, but they have learnt a lot from our invaders on the greens; we possess some really good putters, and, generally speaking, the ball is "stroked," to use an Americanism, smoothly and truly. After my four days' watching at St. Anne's, I am, for what the view may be worth, decidedly more hopeful than I was about the Ryder Cup. I cannot honestly say I think we shall win, but I hope we may give the other side at least a jolt of surprise, for we are sending them a good team.

## THE FORSAKEN COTTAGE

By JOCELYN GIBB

NESTLING on the north shore of one of those many sea-lochs that penetrate the rugged coast line of the north-west Highlands lies an uninhabited cottage. It has not long been deserted, because until a few months ago shepherds had lived there continuously since it was built some time at the beginning of last century, or maybe earlier. Yet its emptiness is the symbol of a tragedy that is gnawing into the vitals of a great people. It is the tragedy of depopulation.

For there is no road to that cottage—only a track over half a mile of rough moorland to a narrow road. Water has to be carried in a bucket from a burn near by and there is no sanitation. The nearest neighbour is over a mile away. It is indeed only half a mile by sea to the main tarred road, but the loch is treacherous and the steep mountains that gird its shores cause storms to arise quickly and unexpectedly. The nearest railway station is 38 miles away and the nearest town 54.

In this age of unreason and unrest one might say that it would be an ideal place to live. But shepherds do not view it like that; nor do their wives. They want to be nearer civilisation, as would most other people if they had to stay there winter and summer alike. To build a road, which lack of labour would anyhow make impossible for some time, would cost more than the poor, acid land, with five of its acres required to keep one sheep, could begin to show in return. Moreover, even if there were a road and a sink and a bath and even electricity, there would still remain the unsurmountable problem of isolation. Yet without shepherds these hill pastures, meagre as they are, will cease to



THE FORSAKEN COTTAGE, SHOWING THE NEAREST VILLAGE BEYOND

provide lamb and mutton and beef which is more than ever needed to-day to save dollars. No amount of exhortation or subsidies can alter those hard, unpleasant facts.

There is also the disturbing thought that good hill-shepherds, born or made, are becoming scarcer. Even with the attraction of modern methods and an independent life, the calling, which is far more skilled and worse paid than many a job in a factory, is losing its recruits.

So the cottage will remain deserted. Until last June there were bright and laughing children playing round the doorstep, and the other week, when I was over at the shearing, their pet lamb was lying pressed tight against the closed door, somehow adding poignancy to the scene. And the school they attended near by is now closed as well, for they were the only pupils left there.

What are we going to do about this depopulation? Quite a few people have ideas about it; some of them good, many of them bad and unsupported by real knowledge of the problem. But one thing is certain. Unless something concrete is done very soon we shall see the end of this fine and proud race of Highlanders.

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## NEW BOOKS

# MR. BUNTING'S SUCCESSOR

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

MR. ROBERT GREENWOOD was the creator during the war of Mr. Bunting, one of those "little men" who are all too dangerously common in fact, but succeed in being endearing in fiction. Now Mr. Greenwood turns from the little man to the common man—common in all senses of the word. It is refreshing to find that he does not wholly admire him, though he appears to admire him more than I do myself.

Horace E. Wagstaff, the hero of *Wagstaff's England* (Dent, 10s. 6d.) might almost be taken as a model of "how not to win friends and influence people." He was a Yorkshireman of the "self-made" variety, the inventor of tin-openers and what not, and out of these things he made a good deal of money. He decided to retire with

Mr. Greenwood leaves this aside and takes his story to a conventional conclusion. Young Jack Verney, son of the greatest local landowner, falls in love with Sally, who, so far as we learn, has no attributes at all beyond a bit of polish that her father's money put on her. Of course, there is family friction, and, of course, this is overcome, and Mr. Wagstaff and Sir Humphrey Verney sentimentally wag their heads together over a coming of a grandson. All that has happened, apparently, is that Wagstaff has decided that county people aren't so bad, and they have decided that Wagstaff isn't so bad. In fact, the whole point raised by the book is avoided.

Did the defect lie in Wagstaff: that is the point. There was a moment

**WAGSTAFF'S ENGLAND.** By Robert Greenwood  
(Dent, 10s. 6d.)

**THE COUNTRYMAN AT WORK.** By Thomas Hennell  
(Architectural Press, 12s. 6d.)

**THE RENAISSANCE OF THE ENGLISH PUBLIC HOUSE.**  
By Basil Oliver. (Faber, 25s.)

his daughter Sally, who, needless to say, was "a breath-taking vision," to the south-country cathedral town of Hillchester.

The novel is concerned with Wagstaff's impact upon Hillchester. It is to his credit that he realised, "I've lived like a pit pony—seen nothing." Unhappily, when he did see things, he saw them as if they were tin-openers to be improved. He said to his daughter: "I'm fair in love with the old town. I can't understand the way the locals take it all for granted. . . . They don't advertise. They don't even try to get a better train service. By gum, I'd like to get on the town council and help to run it."

He began to show the better way by painting the wrought-iron gates of his Georgian house a bright red, and sowing the garden with concrete fauns. He would have liked to go on by pulling down one side of the High Street and battering a way through a Roman arch, in order to solve the traffic problem. When he bought a beautiful house as a holiday home for East End children, he advertised the fact on a board across the front.

### "THE LOCALS"

He didn't get on with what he called "the locals"—the old-established residents of the town. Dimly he realised that they had something he lacked. He tried to get in line by reading. In vain. He "pored over the *Essays of Elia* and such-like volumes, clutching vainly for their inapprehensible secret." He saw in a moment of clarity that "there was always a possibility that the defect lay in himself."

Did it? That seems to me to be the only worth-while question to arise from the book. Do we want to go on breeding Wagstaffs? Are they worth having for the sake of better tin-openers?

when Sally "remembered his lack of education, the squalid surroundings of his early years, his industry, his worth of character, and his well-meant intentions that seemed to go astray." But all this is Wagstaff's own concern. If he could find time for inventing gadgets he could find time for other things. I have lived long enough in the North of England to know that scores of men with Wagstaff's background and upbringing are the support of most of the cultural life in which the North is rich. Consider, too, the passionate dedication to the arts of some of Arnold Bennett's *Five Towns* men.

I am not objecting to Wagstaff as he stands in this book. There are plenty like him in North and South alike who spend their lives pursuing the "main chance" and are baffled later to find their souls unsatisfied. An author need not concern himself with the morality of such a situation. He can present his Wagstaff and leave it at that. But I for one refuse to find him admirable, and I cannot see that the situation would have cleared itself up so neatly as it does here. I admit that Mr. Wagstaff at last smashed up his concrete fauns, but this is a piece of external symbolism unrelated to anything that happened inside him. In a word, there is a danger that the little man and the common man will be given swelled heads, and that the swelling will not be due to any cerebral exercise undertaken on their own behalf.

### COUNTRY CRAFTS RECORDED

The late Thomas Hennell's *The Countryman at Work* (Architectural Press, 12s. 6d.) is a reprint of articles which he had written and illustrated on country crafts. Here, written by his pen and illustrated by his pencil, are pictures of the smith and the cooper, the woodman and the potter,

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and many others with whom Hennell will concern himself no more, for in 1945, while he was serving as a war artist in the Far East, he was killed by terrorists in Java.

This "desperate end," says Mr. H. J. Massingham in a memoir which here prefaces Hennell's work "was in sharp contrast from the inconspicuous events of his life." It is fortunate that the writing of this memoir was entrusted to Mr. Massingham, for he is in sympathy at all points with his subject. One of Hennell's keenest delights was to hunt out old crafts and craftsmen and to celebrate them in word and line, and Mr. Massingham, too, is a great celebrant of these things. Then the two men were close in friendship, and I imagine there was not much about which they did not see eye to eye.

### SMALL USE FOR A STUDIO

Hennell was a parson's son who seems never to have had any interest that could outweigh his dedication to his art. His way of serving his art was not as other men's. He had small use for a studio or for "indoors" of any sort. His studio was the open air, and in quest of his subjects he would tramp the countryside in all winds and weathers, often paying for a meal with a drawing. Financially, he was not successful, but that did not concern him overmuch. "I have sold scarcely anything in the last five years," he wrote in 1940.

His ways were unpredictable. Mr. Massingham pictures him going about the country: "a man who was a kind of familiar of the elements... like Giles Winterbourne with his itinerant cider-press, 'autumn's very brother,' so attuned to the seasonal round of English earth that he became almost a mythological figure of it."

His output was "always copious" and towards the end it became "prodigious." It seems to be generally agreed, too, that it suddenly leaped to an excellence it had not known before. "He did achieve both mastery and acknowledgment of it in a single year and at a single bound of his powers into fruition."

There was a time when both madness and a loss of religious faith smote Thomas Hennell; but he recovered from these shocks, and Mr. Massingham testifies to the solidity of his feet upon the earth thereafter. He gives us altogether a sense of something "as deeply of the earth as Adam," and if, from the point of view of *doing*, Hennell's untimely death has left us the poorer, from the point of view of *being* he leaves an ineffaceable impression of integrity and completeness.

### A LUTYENS INN

The spirit of the English pub has had many celebrants, notably the late Thomas Burke, and I took up Mr. Basil Oliver's *The Renaissance of the English Public House* (Faber, 25s.) thinking to read another chapter in this worthy litany. And behold, I was reading nothing about the spirit of the English pub at all. I was reading about something which I should have thought would never interest me, and I read on fascinated.

The book is not about the spirit but about the body of the English pub. Mr. Oliver is an architect who has given the matter much thought, and who appears to be acquainted with what has happened architecturally to every pub in England from the time of the "Carlisle experiment"—or "enterprise" as he prefers it—during the 1914-18 war, up to 1939.

There is an enormous assortment of pictures, from the charming and utterly appropriate pub that Lutyens built at Cockington, to places that look like baronial halls, Moorish mosques or Hollywood dream houses. The point that emerges is the extraordinary growth of interest in the architecture of the pub, both among the brewers and among architects. What is involved in putting up a new pub or reconstructing an old one is not a matter that smites deeply upon the consciousness of the man who stands pint in hand before the darts-board. You'd be surprised how much has to be thought of in the good cause of keeping this gentleman happy.

### THE SHARDELOES PAPERS

THE Drakes, of Shardeles, have dwelt continuously there for three and a half centuries, acquiring the estate by marriage with an heiress and adding to his possessions (largely in a similar way) during succeeding generations. During that long time a very mixed collection of muniments were accumulated and many of the treasured documents—as is the way of things—disappeared in comparatively recent times. The half a ton remaining were entrusted some ten years ago by Captain Thomas Tyrwhitt-Drake, the present owner, to Mr. G. Eland, F.S.A., who has since been occupied in their transcription and annotation.

Now appears in attractive and readable guise the grain from this long winnowing—*Shardeles Papers of the 17th and 18th Centuries* (Oxford University Press, 15s.). If it is small in bulk it is rich in information and interest, and Mr. Eland's recension is a model for antiquaries in its discerning treatment of so great a bulk of obviously most unpromising material. The Shardeles Papers, as their editor points out, contain few of those chatty letters from friends and relations in which the Verney collection at Claydon was so rich. "Every paper was preserved because somebody misbehaved, or lest somebody should misbehave." From the great bundles of legal proceedings curious facts of actual life have none the less emerged under Mr. Eland's patient handling, and the second group of documents containing a fair description of all agreements, accounts and "business letters" has not proved unfruitful in human interest.

### Too Rich to Be Bribed

The Shardeles Papers, as here presented, owe little to the names appearing in them; though the Drakes, or their nominees, filled two seats in Parliament for almost exactly two centuries they never held or sought office, and were too wealthy to be bribed. For all that, their editor is obviously much too modest when he says that "the chief merit of the detached facts here offered is that they rest on documents not hitherto available," and goes on to deplore "the disjointed character of the material as now presented." Avoiding a chronological arrangement, Mr. Eland has selected such general topics as domestic comforts, the Church and education, and has used what pertinent material he could find to throw light upon them against the background of the 17th and 18th centuries. Of the 18th-century Church we are informed that the papers "tell quite a lot about the temporalities with very little reference to the duties of the incumbent." Various inventories tell us much of domestic comforts and the lack of them and this most valuable section is well illustrated. The figures given in the "education" chapter with regard to both cost of schooling and the price of books are most illuminating. So, too, are the two chapters of *Mixed Characters* in which Mr. Eland has strung together a dozen or so personal histories revealed by disconnected references among this mass of documents.  
W. E. B.

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## FARMING NOTES

# HOME-GROWN GRAIN

THERE has been so much talk about an increase in feeding-stuffs and farmers are so anxious to begin to restore pig and poultry numbers that many are overlooking the present rules about the feeding to livestock of home-grown grain. The same restrictions on the use of millable wheat and barley are in force now, and presumably will be through this winter, as a year ago. All millable and potential millable wheat and barley, with limited exceptions which I will mention later, must be sold off farms to buyers who are duly authorised. Non-millable grain can be kept for feeding with the consent of the agricultural executive committee. The procedure is that the farmer who thinks he has wheat or barley that will not come up to the milling standard submits it in the ordinary way to his merchant, who gets the official verdict, and then, if the grain is declared non-millable, the committee will, if the farmer has a fair number of pigs and poultry, allow him to keep 50 per cent. or possibly the whole of it. There was a lot of non-millable grain about last autumn after the wet and prolonged harvest. Some of it did not keep too well even after artificial drying, but it was useful to have as a supplement to the very meagre official rations.

### Barley for Pedigree Pigs

THE main exceptions to the rule that all millable wheat and barley must be sold are that farmers may sow wheat and barley that they have themselves grown. Those who do not grow more than two acres of wheat may keep the crop for stock feeding. This is a useful concession to those small farmers who knew about it beforehand, but two acres of isolated grain is likely to be an attraction for sparrows at harvest time, and part of the crop may be lost. Barley growers may keep such a part of their crop as is certified by the committee as essential to the maintenance of a herd of pedigree pigs. This, too, is a useful concession and wider use will no doubt now be made of it. This is the time to start building up pedigree herds of pigs so that, when at long last more feeding-stuffs are generally available, advantage can be taken of the good trade for well-bred pigs that there will undoubtedly be. There is also a limited concession to those whose barley ground was flooded until late in the spring, but for most farmers there will be precious little home-grown wheat and barley that they can lawfully keep for feeding to livestock this winter. Although the grain crops were light, nothing was spoilt and I have not heard of any non-millable samples in my district. The clever farmer has been growing some dredge corn, using a suitable mixture of wheat, barley and oats, and this, provided the wheat and barley do not preponderate too heavily, he can keep for his own use. Oats, grown straight without admixture, can be kept for feeding to any livestock, but the capacity of pigs and poultry to digest oats is limited.

### Hungry 'Forties

PROFESSOR SCOTT WATSON, the head of the Ministry's National Agricultural Advisory Service, recalled the other evening the bitter times of the "hungry 'forties" in the last century when 4,000,000 people died in Ireland. He was speaking at the dinner given by Plant Protection, Ltd., to celebrate their tenth birthday, and it was indeed an appropriate occasion for reviewing the resources we now have to overcome the troubles of the "hungry 'forties" which have come again to us in this century. Why is it that parts of the

world are hungry to-day? The immediate causes are the prolonged summer drought in Europe, which, aggravating the deficiencies in food production left by the ravages of war, has brought western Europe face to face with real hunger. We as good neighbours cannot in these circumstances buy food freely abroad even if we could afford the dollars to pay for it, and it is the dollar countries which have more food than they really need. The accidents of war and drought must also be reckoned against the background of increased world population. World food needs can undoubtedly be met amply by increased food output if we use to the full resources we now have for higher farming. We have at our disposal a wide range of man-made fertilisers to supplement animal manure, and, thanks to scientific research, we are now able to control pests and weeds in a way that would have amazed our grandfathers.

### Six Acres for Two Horses

AS mechanisation progresses and tractors replace horses on the small farms of this country and the Continent, there is a steady release of land for growing food for human beings. Professor Scott Watson reckons that it takes the produce of six acres to keep a pair of horses. As the horses disappear, these six acres on countless farms can grow wheat, potatoes, or the fodder needed to produce milk. If I remember correctly, the Professor credited the six acres with a potential five tons of wheat, 35 tons of potatoes, or 20,000 glasses of milk. The change-over to mechanical power is checked by the short supply of handy tractors and implements. In this country we are able to get what we want more easily than the farmers of the Continent, but it is difficult enough here at the present time. Sound working horses still make a fair price, but there is not a keen interest in foals which farmers see coming to maturity at a time when more tractors will be the rule for the smaller farms as well as the big.

### New Entrants

I SEE that the Agricultural Wages Board have now put forward 75s. a week as the appropriate wage that should be paid to new entrants into farm work who lack experience. The corresponding figure for women is 56s. a week, and there are rates also fixed for juveniles, including the foreign "student-employees" who are coming over here to learn about our ways of farming by taking work on well-run farms. I wonder how many new entrants agriculture will be able to absorb at the new rates of wages. After the first two months on a farm a man is supposed to have gained sufficient experience to be able to earn a standard minimum wage of £4 10s. a week. Some may be worth this, and they may replace some of the poorer type of regular worker who has been carried on our farms because the farmer had no choice. There are stories of farmers who intend to reduce their staffs drastically on the reckoning that it will pay them better to invest several thousand pounds in mechanical equipment. Surely it all comes to this. If agriculture can get hold of the resources, particularly of feeding-stuffs, that will allow an expansion in livestock production, there will be a place on our farms for the men we now employ and also for new entrants. But the higher wage rates have come into force before British agriculture can expand its output and take advantage of the higher produce prices that are offered. We must, I fear, expect some unemployment in agriculture this winter.

CINCINNATUS.



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**M**R. LESLIE H. WAITE (by order of Sir Francis F. M. Cook, Bt., his trustees, and Cothay Estates, Limited) at Taunton offered Cothay, a noted Somerset manor house and 430 acres, and sold it for £31,800. Bidding began at £20,000, and rapidly advanced by £1,000 a time to £31,000, after which a cautious advance to the final figure resulted in Messrs. Jackson-Stops and Staff's sale of the estate. Cothay was built in 1480 by a member of the Bluett family, and it is notable for the frescoes which survived the ravages of time, thanks to what might have been regarded as vandalistic action, Elizabethan and other owners overlaying the work with plaster. When this coating was carefully removed the 15th-century paintings were revealed. Mr. Christopher Hussey obtained from Professor Tristram an opinion as to the character and probable date of the paintings. That opinion (recorded in illustrated articles on Cothay in COUNTRY LIFE of October 22 and 29, 1927), presenting a detailed examination of various parts of the house, includes observations on part of a frieze in the parlour showing men in late 15th-century dress and a Madonna and Child, full length, in a landscape enclosed by a roundel.

## MEDIÆVAL FRESCOES

**T**HE work undoubtedly belongs to the latter part of the 15th century and resembles that painted on the panels of the screens of some Devon churches. But the Cothay frescoes have a special interest, for they exhibit that exceedingly rare survival, mediæval domestic, instead of ecclesiastical, decoration.

As for the house, except for some additions and the wainscoting of some of the rooms, it remains unchanged in form. In 1926-27 the gateway and its tower were restored from working drawings supplied by Mr. Harold Brakspear, and armorial bearings of the Bluetts were replaced in what was presumably their original position. It would seem that Roger Bluett, a friend of Lord Protector Somerset, built the present house in the reign of Edward VI. The Bluetts were succeeded in the ownership of Cothay by the Every family, who retained an interest in the property until about 70 years ago, though they leased it to others. In 1877 the then owner sold it to Lieut.-Col. R. Cooper.

## CASTLE COMBE AUCTION

**C**ASTLE COMBE manor house, Wiltshire, and 25 acres can be bought for £16,000, as the property, with the village houses and shops, did not change hands in its entirety at the recent auction. When the various lots were submitted, Mr. Alexander C. Siese (Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley) occupied the rostrum, and a total exceeding £39,000 was realised. The vendor of this Wiltshire estate, Mrs. R. G. Maurice, inherited it from her grandfather, Sir John Gorst. There is a stretch of trout fishing, and the shooting rights over a considerable area, and these can be let. All but three of the 34 lots were sold at the auction, including Bybrook House and six acres, for £8,100; the White Hart Inn for £7,500; the Castle Inn for £4,250; and the post office, and other premises, to the tenants.

DRAWING-ROOM BUILT FOR  
QUEEN VICTORIA

**S**IR IAN FORBES-LEITH of Fyvie made an offer for the Tillyfour estate, near Alford in Aberdeenshire, while would-be bidders were entering the auction room. Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. and Messrs. Reith and

Anderson were authorised to accept it, and many a farmer returned home disappointed of a chance to compete for the holdings as lotted. The 1,890 acres include the home farm on which Mr. William McCombie, M.P., developed the Aberdeen-Angus breed of cattle. His strain was in demand throughout Great Britain and overseas. One of the rooms in Tillyfour House was, in Mr. McCombie's time, adorned with a display of the cups and medals won by his stock. Many instances are recorded of the building of rooms, and even of entire mansions, in order to accommodate Royal visitors, and it can hardly have been a surprise visit which Queen Victoria paid to Tillyfour in 1866 to inspect the Aberdeen-Angus cattle, seeing that Mr. McCombie erected a drawing-room there for Her Majesty's use. Tillyfour is a fully mechanised estate with metalled roads leading in all directions and it is well watered by three streams. The re-seeding of 112 acres cost £14 an acre, and has provided first-rate permanent pasture. The estate affords plenty of mixed shooting, and, though it is no longer heavily wooded, there are large enclosures which supply larch and Scotch fir for estate maintenance. Sir Ian Forbes-Leith intends to farm the property, and he will retain the present staff.

## PRESSURE OF DEATH DUTIES

**M**R. CHRISTOPHER LOYD, having to defray heavy death duties on the Lockinge estate of the late Mr. A. T. Loyd, who was Lord-Lieutenant of Berkshire for many years, has sold the Manor Farm, Drayton, and Marcham Mill, extending to 840 acres, which had been farmed by the Lockinge estate. Originally this land was the first purchase made by Lord Overston in forming the Lockinge estate, which he subsequently handed over to his daughter, the late Lady Wantage. The sale has been effected by Messrs. Curtis and Henson. This firm acted with Messrs. Russell, Baldwin and Bright, Ltd., in selling for £51,500 the late Sir Charles Thornton Pulley's Lower Eaton estate, Herefordshire, comprising the residence, four farms, matured woodlands, and fishing on the Wye.

## DEMAND FOR FARMS

**F**OR Major C. H. B. Prescott-Westcar, Messrs. Lofts and Warner have sold a good deal of the remaining portions of Strode Park, near Herne Bay, Kent, for just over £20,000, including the Home Farm of 208 acres, let at £280 a year, for £6,000; and Hawe Farm, of 238 acres, vacant, for £6,200.

Frodesley Hall Farm, Shrewsbury, a modernised Georgian house, and 299 acres, has been sold by Messrs. Chamberlaine-Brothers and Harrison for £26,000.

The Cirencester office of Messrs. Jackson-Stops and Staff, with Messrs. Bruton, Knowles and Co., has privately sold Southfield Farm, 102 acres, at Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, to Captain S. Peel. The vendor was Major G. Scott-Plummer.

The fifth Lord Onslow's executors have sold Guildford Park Farm, 65 acres, to the Corporation of Guildford as an open space. An acre at Chiswick, used by Gunnersbury Lawn Tennis Club, was to have been offered by Messrs. Tyser, Greenwood and Co., but the local authority has decided to acquire it.

A freehold ground rent of £1,700 a year, secured on premises in St. George Street and Mason's Arms Yard, Hanover Square, has been sold by Messrs. Hampton and Sons on the eve of the auction. **ARBITER.**



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1



2

## A NEW LENGTH FOR DANCING

1 Angele Delanghe makes a dance frock 11½ ins. from the ground, in black ring velvet woven with a stripe of corded silk and pleats the full skirt to the tiny waist and bones the bodice

2 Angele Delanghe's two-way dress: the short gored skirt is 14 ins. from the ground with a corded hem and a low-cut décolletage. The tight ankle-length skirt is added to make it into a dress for formal evening occasions

Photographs by COUNTRY LIFE Studio

THE new styles launched this winter look most attractive for afternoon and evening, and the collections are full of pretty dresses. The rich brocaded silks, velveteens and velvets, the somewhat sombre metallic shades and the boned bodices, tiny waists and wide skirts recall the fashions of the late-Victorian days. The 1910-look is not nearly so pretty nor is it likely to catch on to anything like the same extent, though a few elegant dinner dresses show off this style well and manage to look as though they belonged to the present period. Many others do not, being merely eccentric; when fashion changes it always runs away with itself in the early stages.

An exciting collection was shown recently by Matilda Etches, who is famous for her stage and screen designs, and who has now re-opened her doors to her private clients. She has designed for this winter some quilted silk evening dresses that are practical as well as novel and charming, dresses with all the clear-cut simplicity of line that goes to make a Chinese woman so elegant. They are shown in black and in lacquer red; the black, a sheath dress, ankle-length, with a bolero to cover up the bare décolletage. It is quilted in a shell pattern and moulded to the figure and is very light. The lacquer red has a skirt 9 ins. from the ground with elbow-length dolman sleeves. This is quilted in straight lines to define the figure, in the way a mink coat is stranded over the shoulders. It could not have been prettier or gayer with its narrow fluted basque above its wide-hemmed skirt. Another idea for evening shown by Miss Etches is an ankle-length black crêpe corselet-skirt with two bodices—a long-sleeved top in cream Brussels lace over flesh-pink silk, and a black jacket with a lime-green sash that folds round the neck, crosses over and makes a sash with streamers at the waist. For the country, there is a coat in moss-green tweed with beaver lamb cuffs and a bonnet of beaver that ties under the chin and is attached to a vivid green and yellow scarf like a sheik's that tucks into the collar of the coat. This coat is very full at the back and is held by a belt, and the hem-line swung out as the girl

(Continued on page 798)





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who was showing it moved. She wore canary-yellow knitted stockings, thick and ribbed, and high brown calf boots lined with sheepskin.

For her ballet-skirted dance frocks Miss Etches shows a stiff silk, alternate inch stripes of black velvet with white or wasp-yellow ruffled taffeta. The dresses are stranded narrowly immediately below the waist and the gathered or gored skirt is wide and rustles over a taffeta petticoat with a lace flounce. The mannequins showed them with high-heeled black sandals with many interlacing straps in front, each no wider than a bootlace. All the accessories at this show were carefully thought out. A choker necklace and bracelet of topaz were shown with a gold coloured dress with a curved neckline, while a plain sheath-like black dinner dress with a low V-shaped décolletage that turned back with wide revers had a minute silver watch on a long silver chain dangling nearly to the waist, and the mannequin carried a black suede evening bag on a stiff frame shaped like a vinaigrette.

**B**IANCA MOSCA is showing for her private clients many models already shown to the export buyers, including a wonderful black coat, immensely full in the skirt, tight in the waist, about 14 ins. from the ground, with its wide collar and revers made of looped black velvet that looks like a poodle's coat. Underneath is a black faille dress, gorgeous as a Velasquez portrait of an Infanta, with deep pleats in the skirt and a stiffened hem-line. This picturesque dress has a wide sash of the silk which ties over the sweater-top giving the effect of a bustle. A stiff ball dress is black taffeta with velvet fins reaching from the waist to the ankles and a billowing godet of the taffeta set between each fin. The dramatic effect is heightened by the cape of taffeta that is



worn over the strapless décolletage and dips to the waist-line at the back. This cape is bordered with velvet and shown with long black velvet gloves.

Accessories play an important role in the winter styles. Elbow-length gloves are shown with the ball dresses with strapless décolletages and huge skirts. Wrist-length gloves have a neat decoration on the back and complement the basqued jackets perfectly. They are also shown with some of the mid-calf evening dresses, generally in a different colour matching a flower tucked in at the waist or a piping on the bodice. For the theatre, black veils with a sparkling edge of sequins are worn over the hair and dip over the forehead. Entrancing fur boots for journeys and country are very varied in design, from short booties lined with sheepskin to high Russian boots turned back with lambskin.

New colours sponsored by the Colour Council include lime flower, bright and fresh, and linden, a darker tone and the old English name of the lime tree. These both keep to the yellowed tones of green that are so fashionable. The rich rustling silks that make the dresses of this winter are not the prerogative of the French, for Liberty's are hand-blocking poults with bouquets of flowers that look like an old painting and weaving the most lovely lamés and brocades again. If you write for Liberty's brochure you can see illustrations of these silks.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.

3. A picture-dress, for restaurant wear, of rich black brocade, trimmed with fine black and pink lace. Shown at the Guild of British Creative Designers' Midnight Ball by Rolande et Cie



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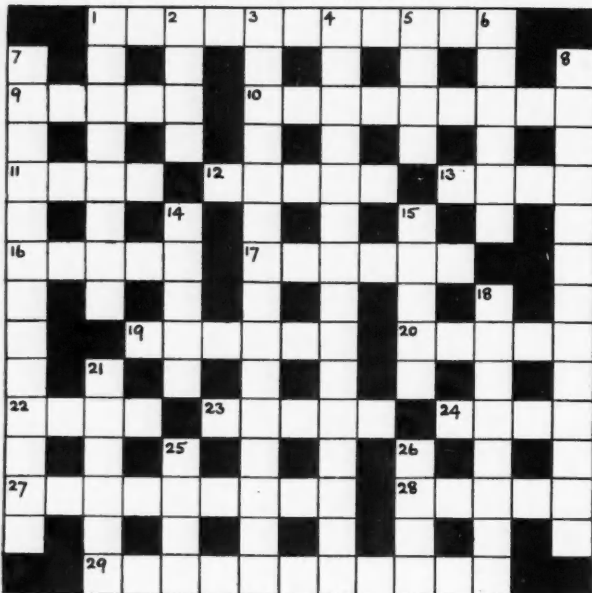


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## CROSSWORD No. 923

Two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 923, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the first post on Thursday, October 23, 1947.

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.



Name .....  
(Mr., Mrs., etc.)  
Address .....

**SOLUTION TO No. 922.** The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of October 10, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Clip; 3, Astrigent; 9, Site; 10, Proper name; 12, Arrow; 13 and 15, Vassalage; 18, Worst; 19, Nonpareil; 22, Rotten Row; 24, Namur; 25, Moa; 26, Godiva; 29, Lucan; 32, Chopsticks; 33, Albi; 34, Transports; 35, Rite. DOWN.—1, Casual ward; 2, Interprets; 4, Scrivener; 5, Ropes; 6, Nerva; 7, Evan; 8, Tier; 11, Swathe; 14, Sap; 16, Vermicelli; 17, Florentine; 20, Newmarket; 21, Annals; 23, Nod; 27, Oasis; 28, Inigo; 30, Scot; 31, Pola.

### ACROSS

1. Guy Fawkes, perhaps (11)
9. Light-weight feline? (5)
10. Clean home (anagr.) (9)
11. Not ours, all yours (4)
12. "The murmuring —  
"That on the unnumbered idle pebbles chafes."  
—Shakespeare (5)
13. Obscure character (4)
16. To do this you must furnish the funds (5)
17. Ascent (anagr.) (6)
19. Sailing in a stiff wind, perhaps; not driven on the rocks (6)
20. What the ex-Serviceman may have come out of (5)
22. Mastery of them is only achieved by degrees (4)
23. With honour or at any price? (5)
24. Among his descendants was a famous architect (4)
27. One of the makers of modern Italy (9)
28. A material factor in housekeeping (5)
29. Two elements (5, 3, 3)

### DOWN

1. End (8)
2. "Milton! thou shouldst be living at this hour:  
"England bath — of thee." — Wordsworth (4)
3. Not admired for pale colouring, presumably (7, 2, 6)
4. Covering engagement (9, 6)
5. The ten terminals (4)
6. Expression on the countenance of Don Quixote (6)
7. Where business is conducted under the sign of the grasshopper (5, 8)
18. In providing this nine need treatment (13)
- 14 and 15. The chimney cleaner with a piece of wood instead of a broom (10)
18. One of Chaucer's pilgrims (8)
21. Uncle Toby was one of his creations (6)
25. Prelate enrobed back to front (4)
26. This battle might have seemed a game to Cockneys (4)

The winner of Crossword No. 921 is

Mr. Oswald Lewis,  
Beechwood,  
Hampstead Lane,  
London, N.6.

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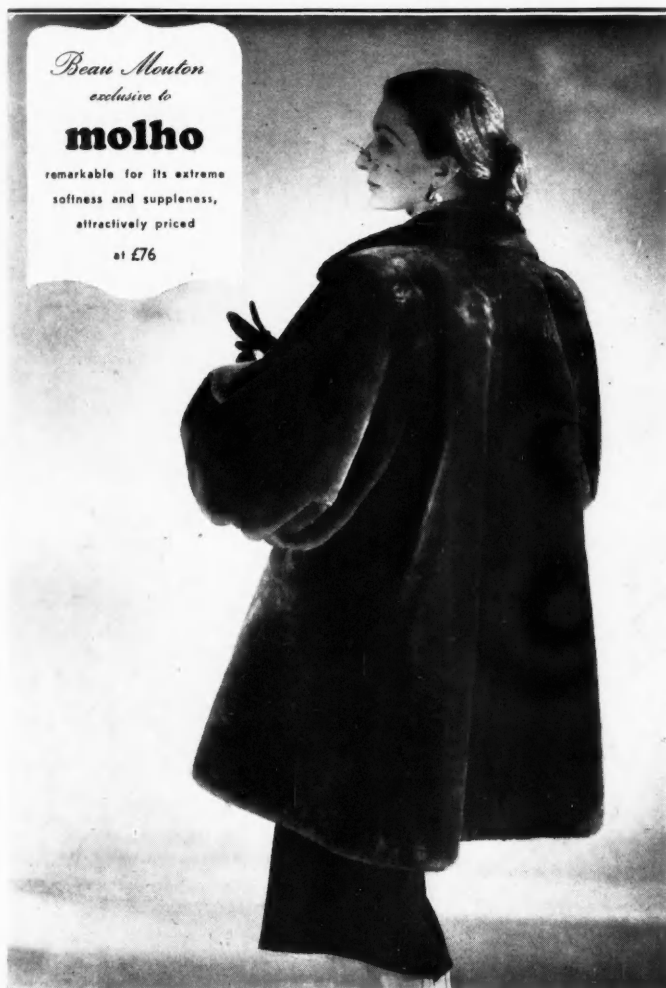


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